

(a) whether the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 has not been made effective so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government are considering amendments to Section 11(1), 11(2), 15(7) and 25 of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 before the Act is brought into force, with a view to obviate operational difficulties when the Act becomes operational. No target date can, however, be specified.

[Translation]

#### Mini Steel Plants

\*76. SHRI GUMAN MAL  
LODHA:

SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether several mini steel plants in the country have been declared sick during the years 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of such units; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to revive such steel plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act 1985 (SICA), as amended from time to time, has specified certain financial parameters under which an industrial company is categorised as a "sick industrial company". In terms of these provisions of SICA, the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has, till January 94, declared eight electric arc furnace units sick during the years 1992-93 and 1993-94. Out of these, winding up notice has been issued in one case, while action for the remaining cases is being taken by the BIFR as per the provisions of SICA.

[English]

#### Pak Propaganda on Kashmir Issue

\*77. SHRI SANAT KUMAR  
MANDAL:

SHRI TARA CHAND  
KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan had raised Kashmir issue at the meeting of the UN Commission on Human Rights held recently at Geneva; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Indian delegation thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pakistani delegation at the ongoing session of the UN Commission

on Human Rights has alleged that India is violating human rights of the people of J&K. The Indian delegation has replied that full exercise of human rights is generated by the Indian political and democratic structures, the constitution, free press and independent judiciary, and terrorism sponsored across the border by Pakistan is responsible for violation of human rights of innocent citizens in the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir.

[Translation]

### Radio Telephone Stations

\*78. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up radio telephone stations for the far flung and hilly areas in the country;

(b) if so, locations thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether all these stations are functioning properly;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has set up radio telephone stations for far flung and hilly areas in the country;

(b) As per the existing policy, Government is providing telephone to every Panchayat village in the country.

This includes far flung and hilly areas. While policy exists for covering hilly areas, there is no special policy or definition regarding far flung areas. State-wise locations for hilly areas are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House;

(c) Some of the stations are not functioning properly;

(d) The reasons are mainly due to failures of earlier versions of some of the equipments & difficult approachability;

(e) The following steps have been taken:—

- (i) Necessary infrastructural facilities e.g. vehicles staff, spares and testing instruments are being provided regularly.
- (ii) Proper control and monitoring of performance of equipments are being done.
- (iii) More reliable media e.g. Radio equipments of latest technology is being inducted in the rural network.

### Visit of President of Uzbekistan

\*79. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA:

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the President of Uzbekistan visited India during January, 1994;