

(b) The losses are due to infrastructural constraints such as want of coal, shortage of wagons, inadequate power supply and substantial increases in the input costs like power, coal, packing material, transportation, spare parts etc.

(c) The net accumulated losses of CCI at the end of 1990-91 are Rs. 183.95 crores.

(d) A number of steps like better Production Management, Financial Management, Materials Management, Marketing Management and Cost Reduction have been taken by the Company.

Expansion of Public Distribution System to Rural Areas

*131. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether expansion of the Public Distribution System, particularly in the rural areas, helps to control the prices of essential commodities to a certain extent; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to expand the existing system to rural areas and bringing the supply of cereals, pulses and vegetable oils under its purview?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The strengthening and streamlining of the Public Distribution System (PDS) is a continual process. The Central Government has been advising State Governments/UT Administrations, among other things, to expand PDS outlets in uncovered/undercover-

ed areas, use mobile vans whenever possible in remote and tribal areas, issue ration cards to all families etc. They have also been advised to increase commodity coverage, on their own, by distributing additional items using PDS outlets. Wheat and rice are already distributed on PDS. Imported edible oils are distributed, when available.

Establishment of a Programme Generation Facility Centre at Jammu

*132. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for the establishment of a Programme Generation Facility Centre at Jammu for Doordarshan was approved by the Government;

(b) if so, when the scheme was approved;

(c) whether a site for the proposed centre has been allotted; and

(d) if so, when and if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The scheme was approved in March, 1990.

(c) and (d) Major portion of the site identified for the project was taken over by Doordarshan in December, 1988 and civil works have been commenced. However, the site has not been formally transferred to Doordarshan by the State Government so far.