

1995 and 1996 except the Advisory Panels at Calcutta and Guwahati for which action is being taken.

Programme Advisory Committees attached to AIR Stations except AIR Madurai and Radio Kashmir, and Doordarshan Kendras have been constituted for a period of two years. They are reconstituted after the expiry of their terms.

(c) The list of state-wise new AIR and Doordarshan Projects alongwith allocation during the current year is enclosed as statement.

STATEMENT

State	All India Radio		Doordarshan	
	Number of schemes	Capital cost (Rs in lakhs)	Number of schemes	Total Approved outlay (1996-97) (Rs in crores)
Andhra Pradesh	1	10 00	2	340 38
Arunachal Pradesh	4	40 00		
Assam	1	25 00		
Bihar	1	32 50		
Goa	-			
Gujarat	2	20 00		
Haryana	-			
Himachal Pradesh	1	10 00		
Jammu & Kashmir	-			
Karnataka	1	138 55	2	
Kerala	1	10 00		
Madhya Pradesh	3	30 00		
Maharashtra	2	40 00	2	
Manipur	3	55 00		
Meghalaya	2	50 00		
Mizoram	2	30 00		
Nagaland	3	35 00		
Orissa	3	436 05	3	
Punjab			1	
Rajasthan	1		1	
Sikkim				
Tamil Nadu	1	36 20		
Tripura	3	45 00		
Uttar Pradesh	1		1	
West Bengal	3	42 00	1	
Delhi	3	128 50		
Lakshadweep & Minicoy Island (U T)	3	55 00		

(*) Statewise expenditure figures are not maintained

[Translation]

Interest on Outstanding Dues

1804. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether interest is paid to the sugarcane growers on their outstanding amounts; and

(b) if so, the rate thereof and the amount paid as interest to the sugarcane growers during the last two years. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) and (b) Under the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 (amended in 1983) if the sugarcane purchased is not paid for within 14 days of delivery of sugarcane at the rate agreed to between the purchaser and the sugarcane grower/sugarcane growers' cooperative society or that fixed as Statutory Minimum Price, an interest becomes payable. The interest element is attracted only when an agreed price/Statutory Minimum Price is not paid within 14 days of delivery of sugarcane unless there is a written agreement to the contrary. Some States also have similar statutory provisions of their own. Ensuring timely payment of cane price by the sugar factories is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments who have got the necessary powers and field organisations to enforce such payments. Information regarding Statewise amount of interest paid to sugarcane growers is not available.

Beedi Workers

1805. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VARMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) the places in Bundelkhand Division of Uttar Pradesh where beedi production work is undertaken alongwith the number of workers engaged therein place-wise

(b) the remuneration fixed by the administration for the production of one thousand beedi in the said area

(c) whether the Government are of the view that the price paid to beedi workers are adequate and justified, and

(d) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard and to improve the conditions of beedi workers and save them from all types of exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The estimated number of beedi

workers, district-wise, in Bundelkhand Division of U.P. is as under :

(i)	Jhansi	22.000
(ii)	Lalitpur	1.597
(iii)	Orai	1.136

(b) The remuneration with effect from 3.1.1994 as fixed by the Government of Uttar Pradesh for making one thousand beedies is Rs.35/- subject to a minimum amount of Rs 210/- per week.

(c) and (d) The State Government is the appropriate Government for enforcement of the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 in respect of the beedi workers. Several Schemes in the fields of health, housing, education and recreation are being implemented by the Government for the welfare of beedi workers in all the States including the State of Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

Levy for Better Service

1806 SHRI R.L.P. VERMA Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have imposed levy of 5% as 'service charges' on the subscribers for providing better service.

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether the Telecommunications and MTNL are not providing any service worth the name and the 5% charge is a sort of tax on the subscribers.

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to abolish this service charge.

(e) if so, the details thereof, and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The 5% levy that subscribers are now charged in their bills is Service Tax levied under the Finance Act, 1994 and the rules made there-under. The amounts collected are credited to the Ministry of Finance, Deptt. of Revenue. The tax has not been imposed by the Deptt. of Telecom and is not a charge for better service.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

[English]

Japanese Assistance for Tourism Development

1807 DR RAMKRISHNA KUMSARIA Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Japanese Overseas Economic Cooperative Fund (OECF) has agreed to provide

assistance for the desert triangle project for tourism development in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the terms and conditions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c) The Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF). Japan has not communicated any specific information to provide financial assistance for the Desert Triangle project for tourism development in Rajasthan.

[Translation]

New Policy For Promotion of Tourism

1808 SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have formulated any new policy to promote tourism in view of the fact that there is still much scope in the country to make substantial increase in the earning from the tourism sector.

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the additional increase likely to be earned by the Government as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c) Promotion of tourism is an ongoing process and is based on the existing trends. The Department of Tourism has recently prepared a Strategy Paper the implementation of which will depend upon overall policy and availability of resources.

[English]

Expansion of Storage Net-Work

1809 SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India propose to expand storage net-work in rural areas, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. FCI constructs comparatively bigger sized godowns only at certain nodal points taking into consideration the potential of procurement of foodgrains & PDS requirement.

(b) Question does not arise.