

thereon, is recoverable from the said sugar mill and there is no proposal not to recover this amount.

(c) and (d) The said mill had applied for a loan for cane development from the Sugar Development Fund, but its application was rejected with observation that it will be considered only after the agreement for taking back this mill was signed by the Sugar Mill. The taking-back agreement has still not been signed by the said sugar mill.

Inclusion of Famine Prone Areas Under DPAP

2069. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received a report from the Rajasthan Government to include the 20 Sub-divisions of Bharatpur, Sawai Madhopur, Tonk, Amer and Kotav Jhalawar under Drought Prone Areas Programme since they are famine prone area; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) In the Memorandum of the Government of Rajasthan submitted to the National Committee on DPAP & DDP, a suggestion to include 20 new blocks in the districts of Bharatpur, Sawai Madhopur, Tonk, Ajmer, Kota and Jhalawar under Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) has been made, as drought causing factors operate more strongly in these areas where rainfall is less than 500 mm. per year.

(b) The National Committee headed by Shri L.C. Jain, the then Member, Planning Commission in its report submitted to Government of India in August, 1990 has recommended transfer of DPAP to States for implementation. In view of this suggestion for

transfer, the Committee was of the view that the States would themselves identify areas for future coverage under this programme. Comments of concerned State Governments on the report of the Committee have now been received and the Government of India will take a view in the matter.

[English]

Committee to Review the Programmes of Doordarshan

2070. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 718 on March 16, 1990 and state:

(a) whether the review Committee set up to review the programmes of Doordarshan has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by Committee and the action taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the steps taken to expedite the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c) The Review Committee referred to in reply to Lok Sabha USQ No. 718 for 16-03-1990 was required to review all the programmes already approved for telecast on the National Network. The Committee was not required to submit any report. The feature films and other programmes reviewed and cleared by the Committee have since been telecast.

Interest on Late Payment of Pension and Gratuity

2071. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether delay in commencement of pension or grant of gratuity

benefits are compensated to some extent by the grant of interest to the pensioner;

(b) if so, the rate of interest thereof;

(c) what is the modality for deciding 'delay' and whether interest is granted as a matter of course if the delay is not on account of the pensioner himself;

(d) whether there is any administrative machinery in each Ministry to oversee the observance of these instructions; and

(e) if so, whether the Ministry of information and broadcasting and various offices under its control are implementing these norms for speedy sanction of pension?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Rules provide for payment of interest only on delayed payment of gratuity.

(b) No interest is payable for the first 3 months from the date of retirement on superannuation and first 6 months in the case of other kinds of retirement not involving disciplinary proceedings. Beyond these periods interest is allowed at 7% per annum for the period of delay upto one year and at 10% per annum for the period of delay beyond one year.

(c) Interest is payable if it is clearly established that the delay in payment was attributable to administrative lapse and that the delay was not caused on account of failure on the part of the Government servant in complying with the procedure laid down for sanction of pension.

(d) and (e) It is the responsibility of all Ministries/Departments to ensure that Government rules and instructions are observed and complied with.

Telecast of Serial 'Lord Krishna'

2072. **PROF. RAM KAPSE:**
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:

Will the **MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to telecast the serial "Lord Krishna" and a story from "Shrimad Bhagwat"; and

(b) if so, by when these are likely to be telecast?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir, no such programme has been approved for telecast by Doordarshan so far.

(b) Does not arise.

Modernisation of Coir Board

2073. **SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN:** Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for modernisation and restructuring of the Coir Industry formulated by the Task Force constituted by the Planning Board of Kerala has been accepted by the Union Government and the Planning Commission;

(b) if so, the date from which it will be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not accepting it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (c) The Task Force was constituted by the Government of Kerala. A copy of the Report has been sent to the Ministry of Industry, Government of India. Subsequently, the Government of India appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Ashim