

[English]

Hong Kong Based State TV

5723. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hong-Kong based STAR TV has brightened Indian Screens by making its debut in the Indian skies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian viewers will have to make any extra arrangements on their T.Vs to get benefit of this arrangements; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). The contours of ASIASAT Satellite footprint cover the whole of India except some parts of Southern India.

(c) and (d). The TV programmes transmitted via ASIASAT can be received by an individual viewer in India only after he/she installs an appropriate dish antenna with the TV receiving set. The existing licencing procedure prescribed by the Ministry of Communications, however, does not permit establishment of a dish antenna for receiving TV programmes from foreign satellites.

Academic Exchange Programme for Sanskrit Scholars

5724. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for academic exchange programme at national and international level for scholars working in the area of computer and Sanskrit;

(b) the names of the centres abroad in USA, Germany and Britain where research in computers and Sanskrit is being carried out; and

(c) the number of scholars who have visited abroad in exchange programmes during the last three years and the number of scholars likely to visit during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The names of some of the centres in America, Germany and Britain where research in Computer and Sanskrit is being carried out are given below:-

- (1) SUNY, Buffalo, USA.
- (2) Louisiana State University, USA.
- (3) University of Michigan, USA.
- (4) Lamar University Station, Texas, USA.
- (5) University of Hawaii, USA.
- (6) Indiana University, USA.
- (7) Institute Kern, Germany.
- (8) Oxford University, UK.

(c) Does not arise.

Funds for 20 Point Programme to States

5725. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Government are aware that funds earmarked and allotted to the respective State Governments under the 20 Point Programme have not been disbursed to the intended beneficiaries;

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken/proposed in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a Committee by including some Members of Parliament to ensure that the funds allotted under 20 Point Programme are properly disbursed to the intended beneficiaries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). Funds are broadly allocated/earmarked for different sectoral plan heads. The funds for the specific items under TPP are devived from the respective sectoral plan heads. Only the physical progress of the TPP is monitored by the MPI. The information regarding the flow of funds to the intended beneficiaries is not being monitored by MPI. However, from the findings of Concurrent Evaluation of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) for the period January-December, 1989 which is one of the items covered by 20 Point Programme, it is observed that ineligible families were assisted in 16% cases. Ministry of Rural Development have taken corrective measures to streamline the implementation of IRDP. Similar information about leakages under other beneficiary oriented schemes covered by 20 Point Programme and remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken is being collected from concerned Ministries/Departments and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) There is no such proposal with the Government at present.

(d) Does not arise.

Land to SC/ST in Alipur Development Area

5726. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether land has been allotted to the landless and SC/ST people in Alipur Development Area under the 20-point programme;

(b) if not, the time by which such allotment is proposed to be made;

(c) whether the persons to whom the land has been allotted have been provided with all the essential public amenities; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The information is being collected and shall be placed on the Table of the House.

Computers in Government Departments

5727. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to State:

(a) whether there is any provision on buying personal computers for various Government Officers with the prior permission of Department of Electronics and the National informatics Centre; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government propose to waive such a provision so that computerization spreads faster with the use of indigenous personal computers as per the plans of respective Government departments; and