Children's Film Society

398. Shri M. K. Kumaran: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that one of the objectives of the Children's Film Society is to exchange its productions with children's Film produced by other countries;
- (b) if so, how many films have been so far exchanged; and
- (c) if not, how is the failure accounted for?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Sham Nath): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) None.
- (c) The Society has not found it practicable to do so.

A.I.R. Station at Gauhati

399. Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of inadequacy of the Gauhati Station of the All India Radio to cater to the growing needs of and arranging transmission of programmes of varied linguistic and cultural groups of Southern Assam including Cachar, Mizo, district, Manipur and Tripura;
- (b) whether there is at present no arrangements for broadcasts in Bengali language from the Gauhati station of A.I.R. although Bengali is one of the principal languages in Assam; and
- (c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to remove the difficulties?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Sham Nath): (a) to (c). The Gauhati Station of All India Radio does cater to a large extent to the listening interests of the varied cultural groups in Assam. Bengali music and spoken-word items are broadcast to a limited extent from

Gauhati. Programmes for Tripura are broadcast daily from All India Radio, Calcutta. The recently started Kueseong Station, which also puts out Bengali music and spoken-word items, will also cater to the needs of Bengali listerners in Assam and nearby areas.

Ambar Charkhas

- 400. Shri Kashi Ram Gupta: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Ambar-Charkhas that had been working in the country during 1959-60, 1960-61 and 1961-62 respectively;
- (b) what has been the average daily production of hanks per Ambar-Charkha during the above mentioned period, year-wise and what has been the average daily earnings of a labourer on Ambar-Charkha during the same period; and
- (c) what is the yearly yardage of Khadi produced from Ambar Charkha spinning during 1959-60, 1960-61 and 1961-62 respectively?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) It is estimated that 1,92,967, 2,23,969 and 2,38,528 Ambar Charkhas were working in the country during the years 1959-60, 1960-61 and 1961-62 respectively.

- (b) On the basis of the surveys conducted by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission during the above period, it is estimated that averags production of each Ambar Charkha has been 3 to 4 hanks per day and the average earnings 37 nP to 50 nP per spinner per day.
- (c) 25.6 and 23.4 million square yds, during 1959-60 and 1960-61 respectively. As regards 1961-62, according to the information so far received 23.3 million sq. yds. of khadi were produced during that year from Ambar yarn.