Opening of New Radio Stations for Regional Languages

2944, Shri Bedahrata Barua: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of radio stations, opened during the last year to cater to the needs of regional languages; and
- (b) the scheme for opening of new Stations during the year 1967-68?

The Minister of Information Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shah): (a) During 1966-67 new Radio Stations, with low power transmitters, were set up at Mathura and Aijal. The Station at Mathura, besides improving coverage, caters to the needs of Brij Bhasha. The Station at Aijal is intended to serve the Mizo Hills area near Aijal and broadcasts some the programmes in the local dialects. Also Auxiliary transmitting centres were commissioned at Gulbarga, Coimbatore, Agartala, Bhagalpur and Udaipur to extend the service from their respective existing Radio Stations at Dharwar, Tiruchi, Calcutta, Patna and Jaipur.

(b) During the year 1967-68 new Radio Stations are expected to be opened at Pondicherry, Dibrugarh and Teju (NEFA). An auxiliary transmitting centre will also be commissioned at Parbhani which will extend the coverage of the existing Radio Station at Poona.

Televisions

2945. Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhary: Shri B. S. Sharma; Shri Ram Kishan;

Will the Minister of Information and Brendessing be pleased to state:

- (a) the name of All India Radio Station where from Television programmes are relayed;
- (b) the plan for providing Television Broadcasting and Relaying Stations in the country during this and next three years;

- (c) the places where Television Broadcasting stations and the places where relaying stations would be located;
- (d) the areas these broadcasting and relaying stations would cover; and
- (e) the period by which whole country would be covered by Television?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K, K, Shah): (a) Delhi TV Centre.

- (b) to (d). The Fourth Five-Year Plan of All India Radio, as approved by the Planning Commission, provides for the setting up of Television Stations at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Kanpur besides the exnapsion of Delhi TV Centre. These Stations are expected to cover the cities and the areas around them. The range of these Stations will depend upon the power of the transmitter, type of antenna employed, location of the transmitting centre and antenna height. The details have not yet been finalised.
- (e) It is hoped that the country would be covered progressively during the next ten to fifteen years.

Powerful Transmitter at A.I.R. Panaji-Gon; and Gon

2946. Shri Shinkre: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the frequent demand from Goans for the installation of a powerful transmitter at A.I.R. Panaji-Goa; and
- (b) if so, what Government propose to do in this connection?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to increase the power of the existing transmitter at Panaji (Goa) in order to improve the broadcast coverage in the tarritory of Goa.