

BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA): (a) to (c). The Satellite Instructional Television Experiment, which was only for a period of one year, has concluded on 31st July, 1976 and is not being continued. It is proposed to provide TV transmission to about 40 per cent of the villages covered by SITE by establishing six terrestrial transmitters i.e. one in each of the six SITE States. The programmes to be telecast from these transmitters will be an extension of the programme telecast during the period of the Satellite Instructional Television Experiment with suitable modification.

Implementation of 20-Point Programme in Gujarat

1522 **SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA**
Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state the progress made with regard to the implementation of the Prime Minister's 20-Point Programme in Gujarat particularly regarding minimum wages to agricultural labourers, abolition of bonded labour, debt-relief to the poor, land ceiling Act, rights to share cropper and other tenants, with special reference to the districts of Surat, Mehsana and Ahmedabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SANKAR GHOSE): A Statement giving the progress regarding implementation of the Prime Minister's 20-Point Programme in Gujarat is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-11219/76]

Silent Valley Hydro-Electric Project

1523. **SHRI C. JANARDHANAN;**
SHRI VARKEY GEORGE;

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government has been requested to explore possibility of executing the Silent Valley Hydro-electric project as a joint venture with other beneficiary neighbouring States; and

(b) if so, State Government's response thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). A suggestion has recently been made to the Government of Kerala to consider exploring the possibility of implementing this project as a joint venture in consultation with other States who could also benefit from the power that would be available. The response of the State Government is awaited.

Loans to Bihar Khadi Gramodyog Sangh

1524 **SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA**
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether the Bihar Khadi Gramodyog Sangh has been receiving as loans and grants huge amounts through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission and other agencies;

(b) if so the amount thereof;

(c) whether the Bihar Khadi Gramodyog Sangh has been in litigation upto the Supreme Court against its employees; and

(d) if so, the total amount spent in litigation and result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.