

which it is issued to the consumers under the public distribution system. In addition to the commodities made available by the Central Government to the States/ Union Territories, the latter have also been given the option to include such other items of mass consumption under the public distribution system as they deem fit by arranging supplies of their own.

(c) and (d) The number of working days and working hours of fair price shops, both in rural and urban areas, are fixed by the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations.

[English]

#### HUDCO Loans not Utilised by Kerala

906. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that HUDCO loans for LIG and EWS (Economically Weaker Section) categories have not been utilised fully by States like Kerala where land value is very high; and

(b) whether Government propose to rationalise the pattern of the scheme by introducing flexibility based on actual conditions in different regions while safeguarding the social objectives of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR):

(a) It is not a fact that States like Kerala, are not in a position to utilise HUDCO loan for LIG and EWS categories. During 1984-85 HUDCO have so far sanctioned loan amounting to Rs. 8.24 crores to the State of Kerala for EWS/ LIG housing, against an allocation of Rs. 4.13 crores.

(b) As the amounts allocated for EWS and LIG are being fully sanctioned there is no need to revise the present scheme.

#### Setting up of a T.V. Centre in Kalahandi District of Orisa

907. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INFOR-

MATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the existing norms fixed by Government justify T.V. centre at Bhawanipatna in District Kalahandi of Orissa;

(b) if so, when Government propose to open a T.V. centre in Kalahandi District of Orissa; and

(c) if not, whether Government would relax the criteria to extend this facility to the people of this backward region in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) to (c). There is no approved scheme, at present, to set up a TV Centre in Kalahandi district of Orissa.

#### Increasing TV Coverage for North Eastern States

908. SHRI LAL DUHOMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the people of the North East, particularly of Mizoram mostly watch T.V. programme of Bangladesh due to the inadequate coverage by Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, steps taken or proposed to be taken to counter the influence of Bangladesh T.V. in that region ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) and (b). A high power (10 KW) TV transmitter (HPT) at Gauhati and low power (100 Watt) transmitters (LPTs) at Silchar, Dibrugarh, Tura, Tezpur, Kohima, Imphal, Aizawl, Shillong, Itanagar and Agartala are functioning in the North-Eastern region.

Taking note of the need for improving TV coverage in this region, schemes for augmentation of the power of TV transmitters at Agartala, Silchar, Dibrugarh and Tura to 10 KW; these at Kohima, Imphal, Shillong, Aizawl and Itanagar to 1 KW and setting up new LPTs at Ukhrul, Diphu, Dimapur, Passighat, Tezu

and Jorhat in the North-Eastern region have been approved and are under implementation. Domestic TV coverage in the North-Eastern region, including Mizoram, would improve considerably on commissioning of the transmitters mentioned above.

**Setting up of T.V. Relay Station at Amlapuram**

909. SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESHWARA RAO : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a TV Relay Station at Amlapuram East Godavari Distt. In Andhra Pradesh which will benefit 10 lakh listeners, specially agriculturists; and

(b) whether considering the importance of the proposal Government will take sympathetic view in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) With the implementation of schemes in hand, TV service expected to be available to half of East Godavari district. Further expansion of TV service to uncovered areas would depend upon availability of resources during future Plan periods.

**Advertisement of State Governments on T. V.**

910. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether some State Governments advertisements of their achievements on T.V.;

(b) whether there is any set norm for Doordarshan to accept such advertisements; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). All commercial advertisements on Doordarshan are subject to the provisions of "Code for Commercial Advertising on TV."

**Bonded Labour Freed and Rehabilitated in Bihar**

911. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bonded labour freed in Bihar during the years 1983 and 1984;

(b) number of those rehabilitated and those who have been sent to their home States; and

(c) details regarding their rehabilitation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) and (b). As per the reports received from the Government of Bihar, the number of bonded labourers identified and freed in the State during the years 1983 and 1984 was 62 and 469 respectively. The corresponding number of bonded labourers rehabilitated was 800 and 2,177. The information regarding the number of bonded labourers sent to their home States is not available.

(c) The Government of Bihar is rehabilitating the freed bonded labourers under land based, animal husbandry based and skill/craft based schemes.

**Representation from Betel Leaf Growers**

912. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the representatives of betel leaf growers;

(b) if so, details of proposals for improving the lot of betel leaf growers;

(c) whether Government have considered the proposals; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to increase betel leaf production, to do research for developing its quality and to