

**Special courses to train announcers
and news readers**

1049. SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether keeping in view the expansion and increase in T. V. programmes, Government are contemplating any institute or special courses to train announcers and news readers;

(b) if so, where will such an Institute be located or courses conducted; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to become operative ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) :

(a) to (c). Establishment of a training institute to cater for the overall training requirements of the staff working in Programme and Engineering Wings of Doordarshan has been included in the VII Plan of Doordarshan. The location of Institute has not been finalised as yet. It is also difficult to indicate at this stage the firm time frame within which the Institute would finally commence its operations.

**Shortfall in production of coarse
cereals**

1050. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :
SHRI KALI PRASAD

PANDEY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production targets of coarse cereals are likely to be achieved and if not, the extent of shortfall expected and the steps contemplated; and

(b) the details of the plan to cope with infrastructural handicaps ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) In view of the adverse

weather conditions during the kharif season, the target of coarse cereals production fixed for 1985-86 is not likely to be achieved. However, it is not possible to indicate the extent of shortfall as the final estimates of coarse cereal production have not yet been received.

(b) I. C. A. R. have launched a programme for the varietal improvement of coarse cereals. Under this programme, research has been intensified to evolve varieties suitable for different agro-climatic situations. Crop improvement projects for sorghum, bajra, maize and smaller millets are working as I.C.A.R. component in its institutions and Agricultural Universities all over the country.

Steps have also been taken to propagate the rainfed farming technology on watershed management basis for increasing the production and productivity of coarse grains.

A Central Sector Scheme of Minikit programme of millets is being implemented to popularise the newly released varieties, disseminate the new production technology through training of extension personnel and maize demonstrations in tribal areas.

**Work on TV programmes production
centre, Patna**

1051. SHRI C. P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the progress in the matter of start of work of television programme production centre at Patna;

(b) whether Patna needs two channels facility for giving proper presentation of local programmes; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) :

(a) Government of Bihar have just handed over a part of the land selected for setting up a full-fledged colour TV studio centre at Patna during the VII plan period. Action for obtaining formal approval of the Govern-

ment to the project and finalising design aspects has been initiated.

(b) and (c). The proposed TV studio centre at Patna would produce programmes relevant to the whole of Bihar, including Patna. Establishment of microwave links between Patna and high power TV transmitter at Ranchi as well as those proposed at Katihar and Daltanganj has been included in the VII Plan of Doordarshan to enable the latter to relay programmes produced at Patna. There is no proposal to introduce a 'second channel' at Patna.

[Translation]

**Setting up of steel plant in Azamgarh
(U. P.)**

1052. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a steel plant in Azamgarh district of Uttar Pradesh keeping in view the fact that it is the most backward district in the State;

(b) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) what are the requirements to be fulfilled for setting up a steel plant in any area; and

(d) whether Azamgarh district does not fulfil those requirements ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). In view of the capacities planned and under execution already vis-à-vis the demand for steel and the overall constraints of resources, it would not be possible to set up a new steel plant at Azamgarh in the foreseeable future.

[English]

Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

1053. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA-MURTHY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the revised estimated cost of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant as per latest revision announced recently;

(b) the amount already spent so far and proposed to be spent during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) whether 3.4 million tonnes capacity is going to be pruned; and

(d) if not, when the plant with the ultimate capacity will be completed both at 1.3 million tonnes and 3.4 million tonnes levels ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) A Rationalised Revised Concept for implementation of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant Project at an estimated cost of about Rs. 6000 crores, as against the Revised Cost Estimate of about Rs. 7500 crores for the already approved concept, as per first quarter, 1985 prices, is under consideration of the Government.

(b) Expenditure incurred in Visakhapatnam Steel Project upto December, 1985 is Rs. 2037 crores. The total provision in 7th Plan for Visakhapatnam Steel Project is Rs. 2500 crores.

(c) and (d). The Rationalised Revised Project Concept envisages the hot metal capacity to remain the same. However, there will be a marginal reduction in liquid steel capacity from 3.4 million tonnes to 3.0 million tonnes per annum. This would lead to the saleable steel capacity being reduced from 2.983 million tonnes to 2.656 million tonnes per annum, but pig iron for sale increasing from 2.15 lakh tonnes per annum to 5.70 lakh tonnes per annum. Thus saleable iron and steel from Visakhapatnam Steel Project would increase from an earlier anticipated level of 3.198 million tonnes to 3.226 million tonnes.

As per the revised concept under consideration with the Government, the first phase is proposed to be completed in 1988 and second phase in 1990.

Effect on environment by Steel Industry

1054. SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :