

**Discontinuation of Konkani news bulletin by External Services of All India Radio**

**5692. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK :**  
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the news-bulletin in Konkani language broadcast by the External Services of All India Radio has been discontinued; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) :**  
(a) and (b). The Konkani service of All India Radio consisted of only a News Bulletin of a duration of 10 minutes only on a daily basis, which was being directed to East Africa. Only a microscopic minority of Indian community speaking Gujarati or Konkani language now reside in East Africa since a large number of them have moved to the United Kingdom. Keeping in view the Geopolitical situation currently existing between India and East Africa, a decision was taken to extend the Swahili service to that target group who understand that service instead of Konkani.

#### Child Labour

**5693. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :**  
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 has come into force, if so, from which date;

(b) the provisions of this Act which have not yet come into force;

(c) whether any instructions have been issued to the State Governments since the enforcement of this Act; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and response of the State Governments thereon ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A.**

**SANGMA) :** (a) Yes Sir; The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, came into force from the 23rd December, 1986.

(b) The provisions of Part-III of the Act have not yet come into force.

(c) and (d). All State Governments and Union Territories have been addressed to enforce strictly the provisions of the Act, and to send an annual return in respect of the number of inspections made under the Act, the number of violations detected, the number of prosecutions launched etc. Since the return is to be sent on an annual basis, the information to be sent by the State Governments will be available in due course.

#### Agricultural production

**5694. DR. V VENKATESH :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether agricultural production and productivity is going up in the country, particularly in Karnataka;

(b) whether any new schemes have been introduced and implemented for this purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Planning Commission's financial allocation for Karnataka during Seventh Five Year Plan in respect of agriculture sector is more vis a-vis Sixth Five Year Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) :** (a) Yes, Sir. Agricultural production and productivity has been showing an upward trend in the country. The same is also, by and large, true in case of Karnataka.

(b) and (c). In the recent past, a number of major schemes viz, Assistance to