

**Setting up of HPT relay centre at  
Dhule**

**5704. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a High Powered T.V. Relay Centre at Dhule, Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) :**  
(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Interest on delayed payment of  
gratuity**

**5705. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised the scheme under which the employers are to pay interest for delayed payment of gratuity to the workers; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) :** (a) and (b). It is proposed to make a suitable provision in the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 making it obligatory on the employers to pay simple interest at a specified rate if the gratuity is not paid within 30 days from the date it becomes payable. For this purpose, an amending Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th March, 1987.

**MICA production in Bihar**

**5706. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an alarming drop in mica production in Bihar during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to check this trend and to bring about improvement in production of mica ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAMDULARI SINHA) :** (a) to (c). There has been a decline in mica production, the main reason being exhaustion of surface reserves of working mines and change in demand pattern.

Geological Survey of India and Indian Bureau of Mines have been making efforts to identify more mica bearing pegmatites. Efforts are under way for production of value added mica products.

**Time allotted for telecast of serials**

**5707. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the weekly time spent on serials by the various Doordarshan Centres;

(b) whether any ceiling has been placed on the time allotted to serials;

(c) the brief particulars of serials which are presently being telecast; and

(d) the brief particulars of the nine serials which have been accepted and which are under consideration for allotment of time ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) :** (a) The time spent on serials is approximately nine hours in a week on the National network including Delhi and linked Transmitters. The time spent by five major Kendras is as below :

Calcutta	—	75 minutes per week
Bombay	—	46 minutes per week