

take up mini hydel projects;

(b) if so, the number of such hydel projects likely to be taken up this year; and

(c) if not the reason therefor

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (b) and (c). Mini hydel projects being taken up jointly with State Government agencies this year are as follows:-

1. Andhra Pradesh	3 Nos.
2. Madhya Pradesh	1 Nos.
3. Orissa	2 Nos.
4. Punjab	5 Nos.
5. Uttar Pradesh	3 Nos.

[English]

**Revenue earned from 'Mahabharat'
Serial**

30. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY:
SHRI MANIK REDDY:
SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of revenue earned by the Doordarshan on advertisements during the telecast of T.V. Serial 'Mahabharat' since its beginning;

(b) the revenue earned on advertisements for each episode of 'Mahabharat'; and

(c) how many more episodes on 'Mahabharat' have been permitted to be telecast?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.K. TEWARY):

(a) The gross revenue earned by Doordarshan from advertisements and sponsorship of 'Mahabharat' from the beginning of its telecast to June, 1989 comes to Rs. 23,59,65,000/-.

(b) The gross revenue earned from each episode of 'Mahabharat' is about Rs. 60.50 lakhs, on an average.

(c) Originally, the serial was approved for 52 episodes. 39 episodes have been telecast by June, 1989. The producer has requested for more episodes. Since it is felt that they cannot complete the epic story in 52 episodes, the Government is agreeable to grant some more episodes of this serial.

**Casual Artists in Doordarshan Kendra,
Hyderabad**

31. SHRI MANIK REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure for appointing casual artists in Hyderabad Doordarshan Kendra;

(b) the remuneration paid to different categories of artists; and

(c) the number of males and females casual artists are there at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.K. TEWARY):

(a) Casual artists are engaged on the basis of voice and camera tests from the applications received from eligible candidates from time to time.

(b) While casual Announcers are paid Rs. 100/- per assignment, the casual News Presenters are paid Rs. 20/- per assignment.