

tion, import stocking and distribution of indigenous and imported newsprint; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the corporation is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.K. TEWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

[English]

Hydro-Electric Project on Indo-Nepal Border

1050. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hydro-electric projects under execution on the Indo-Nepal border;

(b) the capacity of those projects and the expected time by which these are likely to generate power;

(c) the cost of those projects and the amount of external assistance obtained for those projects; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) to (d). There is only one major Hydroelectric Project, namely, Tanakpur HE Project (120 MW) which is at present under execution on the Indian side of Indo-Nepal border. The three units of the project are scheduled to be commissioned by March, 1992. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 274.03 crores excluding interest during construction (IDC) of Rs. 29.99 crores. No external

assistance has been received on this project.

Pilgrims Facilities at Mata Vaishno Devi

1051. SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (UDHAMPUR): Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pilgrims who visited Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine during 1986-87, 1987-88, 1988-89 and upto June 1989;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken for providing a regular air service to the pilgrims; and

(c) the details of the programme for construction of yatrikas for providing accommodation to the yatris?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) As per the statistics available from the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, the number of pilgrims who visited Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine during 1986-87, 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 (upto June), are as given below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of pilgrims</i>
1986-87	1509,750
1987-88	1928,695
1988-89	1957,540
1989-90 (upto June)	723,568

(b) No regular air service is proposed at present.

(c) There is no proposal for the construction of yatrikas at Vaishno Devi.