

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Bank Note Press at Mysore

1918. SHRI JANARDHANA
POOJARY:
SHRI C. SRINIVASAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has started the work for Bank Note Press at Mysore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India has reported that the work connected with setting up of a Bank Note Press at Mysore has been taken up; that land has been acquired; and that fencing of the land has also started. Further, it will take about 4 years to complete the project.

Unsold Stock of Opium

1919. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have unsold stock of confiscated opium; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). 13,840

Kgs. (rounded off to Kgs.) of confiscated opium is available with the Government Opium and Alkaloid Works, Ghazipur/Neemuch.

[Translation]

Doordarshan Transmission in Bihar

1921. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the districts in Bihar are covered by the TV transmission facility;

(b) if not, the districts which are yet to be covered;

(c) whether the process to link these districts through Microwave has started; and

(d) the time by which TV transmission facility would be available there?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). At present, all the districts of Bihar excepting Godda, are covered wholly or partially by TV service. With the commissioning of on-going TV projects in Bihar, the service in the State is expected to improve considerably and parts of Godda district shall also stand covered.

(c) and (d). A firm demand has been placed with the Department of Telecommunications (DOT) for establishment of microwave links between Patna and Katihar and Patna and Ranchi to enable the transmitters at Katihar and Ranchi to relay programmes to be produced at the TV Studio Centre, Patna which is under implementation at present. In the mean time, all the transmitters in Bihar are linked to Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi via Satellite.