

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) The augmentation of the existing transmission facility at Surat in Gujarat depends upon the availability of adequate financial resources.

[English]

Procurement of Wheat

522. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of wheat this year has been more than that of the last year but the procurement has been less and the farmers are withholding the wheat for selling in the open market where the prevailing rate is more;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to see that in times to come the food stock position does not deteriorate thereby smashing the entire public distribution system;

(c) whether the farmers are required to sell a particular stock to the Government; if so, whether that much stock has been procured; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The production of wheat during crop year 1990-91 has been estimated to be around 54.5 million tonnes as against 49.6 million tonnes of the previous year. A quantity of 7.7 million tonnes of wheat has been procured as on 12-7-1991 during the current rabi marketing season 1991-92 as compared to 10.9 million tonnes in the corresponding period last year. The minimum support price (MSP) of wheat was fixed at Rs. 225 per quintal for 1991-92 Rabi Marketing Season which was higher by Rs. 15 per quintal than the M.S.P. for wheat for 1990-91 season.

The procurement of wheat, under price support operations, is totally on a voluntary basis and all the stocks of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) offered for sale by the farmers are

purchased by FCI/State agencies. The farmers are free to sell their produce in the open market at prices higher than the support price fixed by the Government.

(b) As on 1-6-1991, the total availability of wheat stock in the central pool is 11.31 million tonnes, which is considered sufficient to meet the requirements of PDS and other welfare schemes for the remaining part of the wheat year ending on 31st March, 1992.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Setting up of Radio Stations

523. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the new radio stations set up in the country during 1991 so far;

(b) the criteria laid down for starting a new radio station;

(c) whether Government propose to start new FM radio stations in Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) During 1991, 18 new Radio Stations have been set up so far. These are at Alvar, Tirupati, Batripada, Godhra, Ahmednagar, Bhatinda, Kathua, Be'ul, Bilaspur, Sasaram, Chitradurga, Shivpuri, Hassan, Cannanore, Jorhat, Nanded, Anantpur and Kurukshetra.

(b) Such factors as the need to provide service to the areas not hitherto covered and extend service to hilly, backward, tribal and border areas; technical feasibility extent of resultant coverage to rural and urban population; availability of programme production and linkage facilities; the linguistic and cultural needs; and the availability of financial resources are

mainly taken into account while selecting locations for setting up radio stations in the country.

(c) and (d) Radio Stations with FM Transmitters and multi-purpose studios, one each at Cochin and Cannanore in Kerala, were recently commissioned into service. Besides, a new Radio Station with 2 x 3 KW FM Transmitter, multi-purpose studio and staff quarters is nearing completion at Idukki.

Industrial Growth Centres

524. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of Industrial Growth Centres;

(b) the number of Industrial Growth Centres set up/proposed to be set up during the current year.

State-wise with locations thereof; and
(c) the amount spent or proposed to be spent on these centres during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (c) The Government in June, 1988, announced a scheme to set up growth centres throughout the country to promote industrialisation of backward areas. It is proposed to develop 70 growth centres in the first phase out of which locations of 61 growth centres have been identified and announced. A list of growth centres announced so far is given in the attached statement. Each growth centre would be developed at a cost of approximately Rs. 25-30 crores. A sum of Rs. 50 crores has been included in the Statement of Budget Estimates for 1991-92 for this scheme

STATEMENT

Growth Centres Selected

<i>Name of Growth Centre</i>	<i>District</i>
1	2
ANDHRA PRADESH (4)	
1. Vijianagaram-Bobbili	Vijianagaram
2. Ongole	Prakasam
3. Khammam (Vemsoor Mandal)	Khammam
4. Hindpur	Anantapur
BIHAR (5)	
1. Jasoria	Aurangabad
2. Bhagalpur	Bhagalpur
3. Purnea Kasba	Purnea
4. Muzzafarpur	Muzzafarpur
5. Hazaribagh	Hazaribagh
GOA (1)	
1. Electronic City	Verna Plateau
GUJARAT (3)	
1. Palanpur	Banaskantha
2. Vagra	Bharuch
3. Gandhidham	Kutch