

[English]

Telecast of Regional Programmes by Doordarshan

491. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing one hour allotted for Regional Centres' Programmes on Sundays has been reduced to half-an-hour;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether one hour time allotted for programmes of Regional Centres on the New Year Eve every year is proposed to be cancelled from this year;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether several programmes of Trivandrum Doordarshan are pending for recognition with the Union Government;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps proposed to be taken to encourage Regional language programmes at the national level?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Telecast of the recorded version of Question Hour of both the Houses of Parliament has necessitated this change.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Within the constraints of telecast time, programme requirements resources and viewers interest, it is the endeavour of Doordarshan to telecast programmes in various regional languages in the National Network.

Utilisation of Surface Water

4092. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:

SHRI GANGADHAR
SANIPALLI:

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
KAUR (DEEPA):

DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PANDEY:

DR. P. VALLAL PERMUNAN:
SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR:

SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

SHRIMATI RITA VERMA:

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have conducted any study/survey in regard to the utilisation of un-utilised surface underground water in the country:

(b) if so, the outcome thereof location wise: and

(c) the details of such studies and surveys proposed to be undertaken during the current year?

The Minister of Water RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). As per assessment made by the Central Water Commission, out of 40 cubic kilometres of average annual precipitation (snow and rainfall) received by the country, the

utilisable water resources is 1140 cubic kilometres of which about 552 cubic kilometres is being presently utilised. Leaving 588 cubic kilometres of utilisable water as unutilised. Studies and surveys for the purpose are undertaken regularly.

Pay Phones to Scheduled Tribes in Bihar

4093. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the pay phones allotted to the applicants belonging to the Scheduled Tribe category under the Manned Payphone Franchise Scheme in Bihar during each of the last two years district-wise, along with the percentage; and

(b) the details of the criterion and priority accorded to Scheduled Tribe applicants in the allotment of Payphones?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translations]

Quality of Food Provided in IA Flights

4094. SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the food served by Indian Airlines in its planes bound for Delhi, Patna Ranchi, Calcutta is of inferior quality;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve its quality?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (a) No, Sir.

(b) does not arise.

(c) The following steps are taken by Indian Airlines to ensure the quality of food on its flights:-

- (i) Pre-flight quality checks and periodical inspection of catering establishments are undertaken by qualified catering staff of ensure quality control;
- (ii) Periodical inspection of caterers' establishments units by medical officers of Indian Airlines is done to ensure maintenance of proper hygienic conditions in the areas where food is prepared stored, preset and loaded;
- (iii) Punitive action is taken against the caterers whenever deficiencies are noticed.

[English]

Tehri Hydro Electric Project

4095. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether an increase in the cost of the construction of Tehri Hydro-electric Power Project has been estimated;

(b) if so whether the estimated cost of this project was 3,804 crore rupees and it is now likely to go up to 5058 crore rupees:

(c) if so, the percentage of the work completed by the December, 1991; and