

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). During the year 1993-94 the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has plans to make two additional ISBTs operational. One of them has started functioning at Sarai Kale Khan with effect from 5.7.1993. The other ISBT at Anand Vihar in East Delhi, is likely to be started by the end of this year.

[English]

Economic Block of SAARC Countries

63. SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the formation of economic blocks by member countries of NAM is compatible with the aims and objectives of NAM;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to launch an economic/trading block of SAARC countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (d). The objectives of NAM emphasize international co-operation in political and economic fields. Tenth NAM Summit at Jakarta welcomed the creation among developing countries of organisations for regional cooperation & subregional economic groups which should constitute a mainstay for South-South cooperation. In this context the NAM Summit welcomed the accelera-

tion of regional economic co-operation between the member States of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC). SAARC Professional Trading agreement (SAPTA) was signed during the 7th SAARC Summit held at Dhaka in April, 1993.

[Translation]

Non-Functioning of Doordarshan/Air Kendras

64. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (FEROZEPUR): Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Doordarshan and Akashvani Kendras in the country, which have since been completed and staff already posted, but have not started functioning for want of formal inauguration; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to make these kendras functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Four stations of All India Radio at Obra (Uttar Pradesh), Raichur (Karnataka), Mercara (Karnataka) and Mercapuram (Andhra Pradesh) are ready in all respects. Efforts are being made to inaugurate and commission them into service early. However, there is no Doordarshan Kendra which is ready for commissioning in all respects.

Some other Kendras/Stations of Doordarshan and All India Radio are technically ready and will be commissioned into service as soon as minimum essential staff is in position.

[English]

Power Project by NRIs

65. SHRI SHRIVAN KUMAR PATEL: