

[*Translation*]

Food Processing Units

4580. DR. SAKSHIJI:

SHRI N.J. RATHVA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the States and Union Territories where food processing units are proposed to be set up under the modernisation and expansion programmes of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up Food Processing units directly in any State. However, assistance is provided under the developmental plan schemes of the Ministry to State Government (and Union Territories) Organisations/Co-operatives/Voluntary Agencies/Joint Sectors etc. for setting up/upgrading Food Processing Industries. Assistance has so far been extended to the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Manipur, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, U.P. and Lakshadweep etc. under the various plan schemes of the Ministry.

Radio Stations

4581. SHRI RAM SINGH
KASHWAN:
SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating on a proposal to allow the

State Governments, Zila Parishads and other agencies to set up and run Radio Stations at local level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of local radio stations which were planned to be set up by Akashvani during the Seventh Plan period and the number of those out of them, which have started functioning; and

(d) the time by which the remaining radio stations are likely to be made functional?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the 7th plan period, 73 Local Radio Stations were planned to be set up in the country, out of which 57 have been commissioned so far.

(d) Remaining 16 radio stations are expected to be completed during the 8th plan period.

[*English*]

**Inclusion of area under MTNL
Bombay**

4582. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether inclusion of entire Bombay Metropolitan Region from Virar to Panvel in the jurisdiction of MTNL, Bombay is under consideration; and

(b) if so, the expected time by which the above proposal is likely to be implemented.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant

4583. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

The details of losses suffered or profits earned annually by Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Limited, Karnataka from 1987-88 to 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): Losses suffered by Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Limited for 1987-88 to 1992-93 are as under:-

Year	Losses (Rs. in crores)
1987-88	24.40
1988-89	26.48
1989-90	3.14*
1990-91	1.50*
1991-92	1.69
1992-93	9.79
1993-94	Accounts not yet finalised

* Without considering adjustments relating to prior period mainly arising out of waiver of interest on term loans, reduction in the rate of interest on working capital loan and other benefits/concessions granted to VISL as a part of take-over agreement between SAIL, Government of Karnataka and Government of India.

Damage to National Highways in Meghalaya

4584. SHRI PETER G. MARBANI-ANG: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of National Highways covering Meghalaya;

(b) the stretches of National Highways in the State which have been identified as prone to damage due to heavy rains; and

(c) the steps taken to protect the same from damage by the natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 472 km.

(b) Stretches from km 108 to km 118 of NH 40, km 64 to km 168 of NH 44 and km 118 to km 122 of NH 51 are reported to be prone to damage due to heavy rains.

(c) Protective works, such as, retaining walls, breast walls and drains/cross drainage structures are constructed whenever required subject to availability of funds.

Hindustan Shipyard Limited Visakhapatnam

4585. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam has been suffering losses for the last several years;