

At present, a team from E.E.C. is investigating the feasibility of the project.

**Security Arrangements for Former Director of Srinagar Doordarshan Kendra**

1792. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the erstwhile Director of Srinagar Doordarshan Kendra was receiving threats to his life and to his family members; and

(b) if so, what security arrangements were made for protecting him and his family members?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All the employees working in sensitive Departments of the Government of India located in the Valley have been receiving threats. For Srinagar Doordarshan Kendra, arrangements were made for all the officials to stay within the station complex itself under armed protection. The late Lassa Kaul, whose wife and children are not staying in the Valley also was staying in the station complex.

**Curb on Foreign Journalists in Jammu and Kashmir**

1793. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether curbs have been imposed on foreign journalists in regard to covering the disturbances in Jammu and Kashmir, if so, the reasons thereof; and

(b) whether this restriction also extends to Indian Journalists? \*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Minimum Price of Pepper**

1794. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to fix the minimum price of pepper; and

(b) if so, the price proposed and steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Scheme for Benefit of Poor**

1795. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to draw up any new schemes which will directly benefit the rural poor; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). In the Budget for 1990-91, a new Employment Guarantee Scheme is proposed to be launched for Drought Prone Areas and rural areas with acute problem of unemployment for providing productive and gainful work to the rural poor. Details are being worked out.