

(c) whether Government propose to start the regular telecast of programmes in Sindhi language from Delhi Doordarshan; and

(d) the other steps proposed to be taken by the Ministry to acquaint the people with Sindhi Culture?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Doordarshan Kendra, Bombay, had been telecasting Sindhi programmes of 30 mts. duration twice a month of Channel II. Recently the Kendra has increased the frequency of this programme from twice a month to thrice a month.

All India Radio, Bombay, is already broadcasting Sindh programmes for a duration of half an hour twice a week.

(b) No, Sir;

(c) No, Sir; and

(d) Fourteen stations of All India Radio broadcast Sindhi programmes to acquaint the people with the rich Sindhi culture and heritage. Songs in Sindhi are also included in Vividh Bharati programmes broadcast from 29 stations of All India Radio. Sindhi programmes of 2 1/2 hours duration are broadcast daily in External Services of All India Radio.

Doordarshan from time to time mounts suitable programmes, reflecting Sindhi culture.

[English]

New Places to be covered by Doordarshan in Karnataka

840. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of places to be covered by Doordarshan in next two years in Karnataka; and

(b) the centres to be covered by High Power Transmitters in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). Two high power (10 KW) TV transmitters under implementation, one each at Dharwad and Shimoga, are envisaged to be commissioned into service during 1991 as a part of spill-over scheme from the VII Plan. However, the VIII Plan allocation not having been made by the Planning Commission so far, it is not possible to indicate the details of the TV projects to be set up in the State under the VIII Plan.

Religious Serial to be Telecast on Doordarshan

841. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether serial based on religious themes other than Hindu religion are proposed to be telecast on Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). It is the endeavour of Doordarshan to telecast high quality programmes on socio-cultural themes with universal values. This is a continuing process.

Cashew Exports

843. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state: