

Airports in Rajasthan

3381. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some International financial institutions propose to provide financial assistance for constructing airports in Jodhpur, Jaisalmer and Bikaner with a view to promote desert tourism in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of such institutions; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

Film/TV Institutes

3382. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Film and Television Institutes set up by the Government, location-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to promote the artists, regional films and serials; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) At present, there are two Film & Television Institutes, namely, Film & Television Institutes of India (FTII) at Pune and Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute (SRFTI) at Calcutta.

(b) and (c). The Government has taken several supportive measures for the growth of Hindi as well as regional language films in the country. The Government has instituted Annual National Film Awards in different disciplines of cinema to encourage production of films of aesthetic excellence and social relevance, contributing to the understanding and appreciation of the film culture of different regions of the country. The Indian Panorama section of the International Film Festival of India also includes regional films. Besides, the Government has set up organisations like National Film Development Corporation which promotes production of regional language films.

The different Kendras of Doordarshan telecast regularly regional films and serials. Regional films are also telecast on

the National Network every Sunday. These Kendras together with the Programme Generation Facility Centres situated all over India give opportunity to local talents/artists to participate in and produce programmes for Doordarshan under various programme schemes.

[Translation]

N.B.C.F.D.C.

3383. SHRI GIRDHARI YADAV: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of members of National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation;

(b) the programmes of the Corporation especially regarding the development of the backward classes of Bihar;

(c) the expenditure incurred by the Corporation till date on the development works in Bihar; and

(d) the details of the programmes proposed to be implemented by the above Corporation in Bihar during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) As the National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation has been constituted as a company not for profit under section 25 of the Indian Companies Act, the question of members does not arise. It has a Board of Directors which may have maximum thirteen members.

(b) and (c). NBCFDC has so far sanctioned 100 schemes to Bihar for Rs. 3137.81 lakh as loan from the Corporation out of the above Rs. 680.28 lakh have been drawn by the State Corporation for 3083 beneficiaries. The SCA has utilised Rs. 291.75 lakh i.e. 42.89% only, out of the released funds as on 31.5.95. Proper utilisation of released funds entirely depends upon the Bihar State BC Dev. Corporation.

(d) NBCFDC is fully committed to meet the needs of genuine beneficiaries for whom projects are to be formulated and sponsored by the SCAs as per guidelines of the Corporation. The Corporation has not laid down any restrictions on any scheme which is viable. All the SCAs including Bihar have been informed to identify eligible beneficiaries and to formulate need based schemes for upliftment of the Backward Classes, the response is awaited.

[English]

Concession in Telecom facilities in rural areas

3384. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount proposed to be spent for providing telecom facilities in rural areas during 1996-97, State-wise;