

[English]

Child Labour

*40 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to amend the existing child labour law;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which the above amendment is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) (a) to (c). There is a proposal to amend the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. The Workshop of Collectors of the most child labour endemic districts in the country, held in New Delhi in September, 1995, made a number of recommendations to make the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act more stringent and effective. Since amendments in the Act require consultation with various Ministries/Departments, it would be difficult to lay down any definite schedule in this regard.

Doordarshan Channels, Calcutta

201 SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to telecast Metro and other channels programme beyond Calcutta West Bengal,

(b) whether the people of the State are demanding this for a long time

(c) whether any steps are being taken or proposed to be taken to meet the demand of the State,

(d) if so the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM) (a) to (e). Representations have been received from time to time for extension of Metro Channel (DD II) service beyond Calcutta in West Bengal. The service however is being extended initially to State Capitals and major cities of the country in a phased manner depending on availability of resources and other infrastructural facilities. The service is presently being relayed in West Bengal by the High Power Transmitter (DD-II) at Calcutta. An additional Low Power Transmitter is presently under implementation at Murshidabad for relaying the service. Further extension of Metro channel service

in West Bengal would depend upon the availability of resources and inter-se priorities. The service is however, available throughout the country, including the entire State of West Bengal, via satellite by using an appropriate Dish Antenna System.

Low Power Transmitters

202 SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the installation of a Low Power Transmitter at Rohtak in Haryana has been completed,

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be commissioned;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard.

(d) whether the Low Power Transmitter installed at Meham in Haryana is functioning to its intended capacity;

(e) whether adequate staff has been posted at the Low Power Transmitter stations at Meham and Rohtak for their optimum utilisation, and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM) (a) to (c). The Low Power TV transmitter (LPT) at Rohtak is technically ready. Its commissioning would, however, depend upon availability of staff sanction for operation and maintenance of the project.

(d) to (f). Though the LPT at Meham has already been commissioned pending staff sanction, the project is being operated by interim staff deployment from elsewhere in Doordarshan network thereby providing only restricted transmission. Operation of the transmitter on full capacity would depend on availability of staff sanction for the project.

Expansion of Air Services in Rajasthan

203 SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether any demand has been received from the Government of Rajasthan to increase air services in the State

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM) (a) and (b). Requests have been received to increase frequencies of the existing

services from Delhi and Mumbai to Jaipur, Jodhpur and Udaipur and to introduce service to Jaisalmer.

(c) Due to capacity and crew constraints Indian Airlines is, at present, not in a position to increase the services. The State Government is reported to have offered concessions to private airlines for operations to/from Rajasthan.

Loss to DD Channels

204 SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether prior to introduction of Star TV and other foreign T.V. Channels, Doordarshan's DD-I and DD-II were earning a very heavy amount through advertisements, which is being diverted to foreign channels presently as reported in 'Times of India' dated June 21, 1996;

(b) the total amount of loss being suffered by DD due to diversion of T.V. advertisements, and

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to make good this loss and ensure smooth running of Doordarshan in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) There has been no adverse effect on the commercial earnings of Doordarshan due to the advent of foreign satellite channels as is evident from the following figures of commercial revenue earned by it during the last three years

Year	Revenue in crores
1993-94	Rs 372.98
1994-95	Rs 398.02
1995-96	Rs 430.13

(c) In view of (a) and (b), does not arise. However, Doordarshan constantly strives for qualitative improvement in its programmes so as to attract maximum number of viewers and make it a cost-effective medium for the advertisers.

Haj Flights from Calicut Airport

205 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether representations to increase Haj flights from Calicut airport were received by the Government

(b) if so the details thereof and

(c) the number of Haj flights arranged this year from the above airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Representations have been received for introduction of Haj flights from Calicut Airport.

(c) Since Haj flights have been operated with B 747 type of aircraft during 1995 and 1996, it has technically not been feasible to operate such flights from Calicut.

Central Assistance to Orissa

206. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have provided financial assistance to Orissa for construction of hotels, motels and guest houses,

(b) if so the details thereof during the year 1995-96, and

(c) the number of hotels, motels and guest houses built in the State by Union Government during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c) The Department of Tourism, Government of India, does not extend financial assistance for construction of hotels but provides financial assistance to State Government to construct tourist lodges, wayside amenities, yatri niwases, cafeterias and some tented accommodation. Financial assistance sanctioned to the State of Orissa for these purposes during 1995-96 is given below :

S. No.	Name of the project	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1	Amenity Centre at Dhauli	20.25
2	Tourist Lodge at Badarama	36.41
3	Floating restaurant at Barkul	42.89
4	Beach cleaners equipment Puri Orissa	9.30
Total		108.86

Bonded Labour

207 SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) whether the International Labour Organisation (ILO) has criticised India for failing to check bonded labour, particularly child labour