

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (c). Position regarding utilization of funds and the amount to be surrendered will be known at the end of financial year.

[English]

Telecast/Broadcast of News Regarding Attempt on Life of P.M.

4199. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY :
SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN :

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

(a) the time at which the All India Radio and Doordarshan announced the news of the attempt on the life of the President and the Prime Minister at Rajghat on 2 October 1986;

(b) whether any inquiry have been made regarding the causes of delay in announcing this important news by All India Radio and Doordarshan,

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) whether British Broadcasting Corporation was able to telecast a film giving an account of the incident the same day at 1.00 p.m. and if so, the reasons why Doordarshan could not telecast a similar film ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) :

(a) to (d). AIR broadcast the news about the incident at Rajghat on 2nd October, 1986 in the Hindi news bulletin at 11.00 hrs. and also in the English news bulletin at 11.05 hours. Although Doordarshan telecasts news bulletins only in the evening, a special news bulletin was telecast in Hindi at 12.58 hrs. and in English at 13.00 hrs. The telecast also contained an interview with the Prime Minister as he was boarding his aircraft on the commencement of his tour to Nagpur and Wardha.

The question of holding any inquiry does not arise, as there has been no delay in the broadcast/telecast of the news.

According to the local office of the British Broadcasting Corporation, a visual was shown by the B. B. C. TV in the news at 9.00 P. M. (their local time) on the next day i.e. 3.10.1986. The visual shown was only Doordarshan's coverage and this was also acknowledged in the B. B. C. telecast.

Setting up of Study Groups for Rice Productivity

4200. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have appointed a study group to work out the potential for rice productivity in eastern region of the country ;

(b) if so, whether there are some proposals under consideration of Government to appoint a similar study group in respect of southern region ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A study group on agricultural strategies for eastern region of India, was appointed by the Planning Commission, Government of India.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The eastern region comprising Assam, Bihar, east Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, eastern Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have been lagging behind the rest of the country in respect of agricultural performance. The gap between the actual output and the potential that can be achieved with the known technology is very high in this region. The region also accounts for a very large part of the population below the poverty line in the

country. The agricultural development of this region apart from contributing to self-reliance on sustained basis would also raise employment and income for the poorest of the poor in the country. The complementarity between growth and equity is no where as pronounced as in this region. It is with this concern that the Planning Commission constituted an expert study group to review performance in respect of major food crops in the eastern region, identify constraints and possibilities for growth and suggest and outline of strategy for achieving rapid growth.

The Special considerations for appointing the study group on agricultural strategies for eastern region of India as stated above, do not hold good for the Southern region.

New Formula for Allocation of Funds for Drinking Water Supply

4201. SHRI V. TULSIRAM :
SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have drawn a new formula to provide funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply programme ;

(b) if so, whether funds allotted to the State of Andhra Pradesh are not substantial ; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to amend the scheme and to provide extra funds to Andhra Pradesh for the remaining period of the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). The rural drinking water is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. It forms a part of the minimum Needs Programme (MNP) of the State. The Central Government only

supplements the effort of the State by providing financial assistance under Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Taking into account the Seventh Plan objective of covering the entire rural population with supply of drinking water, the following formula has been devised for distribution of funds under the ARWSP to the States from the second year of the Seventh plan :

(a) 50% weightage being given to the rural population in a State (1981 census)

(b) 20% weightage being given to the area of the State ;

(c) 20% weightage being given to the incidence of poverty in the State (data taken from NSS 38th round) ; and

(d) 10% weightage being given to the problem villages which are spill over of the Sixth Plan (list of 1.4.80). This is further subject to the State Governments making an equivalent provision for drinking water under MNP.

In the current year the provision of MNP of Andhra Pradesh Government is Rs. 1760 lakhs. The Central Government has assured the allocation of Rs. 1760 lakhs under ARWSP also and has already released Rs. 880 lakhs to the State Government as the first instalment. The question of amending the formula does not arise.

• Documentary on Life of Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narain

4202. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether no documentary film has been produced so far on the life of Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narain ; and

(b) if so, whether such a documentary will be made particularly for the infor-