

Introduction to Teletext

National water-shed development programme

2179. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have sponsored a National Watershed Development Programme for the period 1987-92;

(b) if so, the amount earmarked for the programme; and

(c) the amount proposed to be spend each year; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): '(a) Government of India have launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Agriculture from the year 1986-87 to 1989-90.

(b) to (d). Under this Scheme a sum of 30.00 crores, annually, has been earmarked as Central share. The main features of this scheme are:

- i) Land and moisture management, cropping systems introduction including dryland horticulture, fodder production and farm forestry,
- ii) Contingency seed stocking and supply of seedings and grass seeds/slips,
- iii) Training,
- iv) Adaptive reseach activity,
- v) Provision of survey equipment and fabrication of new tools; and
- vi) Preparation of field manuals, etc.

2180. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) When the decision to introduce TELETEXT was taken and when it started working;

(b) the total amount spent on it so far;

(c) whether two systems in Teletext from British and French concerns were considered;

(d) if so, which of the two systems has been accepted with reasons for the same and whether the accepted system is cheaper of the two;

(e) in how many cases foreign equipment Teletext has been imported and at what cost; and

(f) the present state of its working?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA): (a) The decision to introduce Teletext Service was taken in April, 1984 and the service at Delhi was started in November, 1985.

(b) A Capital expenditure of Rs. 130.62 lakh has so far been incurred on the Teletext Service.

(c) and (d). After a detailed study of technical viability and economics of the three systems, viz, French, British and Japanese, it was found that the French system was best suited to meet the requirements of Doordarshan and was therefore selected.

(e) Equipment required for introduction of Teletext Service at Delhi involved an expenditure Rs. 115.43 lakhs including a foreign exchange component of about Rs 53.83 lakhs.

(f) The equipment is working satisfactorily.