

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to enquire into the functioning and performance of the National Film Development Corporation. One of its recommendations was that the Directorate of Film Festivals should be immediately retransferred in its entirety to the Ministry of I and B. Government considered this recommendation and accepted the same.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Since the decision was taken after due deliberation and taking into account various points of view in this regard, Government proposes to implement this decision.

Clearance to Pending Power Projects

10455. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to clear all the power projects which have been pending since long in view of the growing demand for power in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (c). While all efforts are being made to expedite the clearance of the power projects in order to meet the growing power demand, the approval of projects for execution depends upon a number of factors such as the comprehensiveness of the project reports, expeditious response of the project authorities to the various comments/observations of the Central Electricity Authority/Central Water Commission, availability of various inputs and clearances and the relative priority accorded to the projects in terms of allocation of funds.

Electrification of Villages in Bihar

10456. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of villages in Bihar which have been electrified so far;

(b) the number of villages having Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe basties which have been electrified so far;

(c) the amount sanctioned by Union Government to Government of Bihar for expansion of electrification programme during the current financial year; and

(d) the details of the amounts sanctioned for other States during the current financial year, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) In Bihar 60.76 per cent villages have been electrified as on 31.3.1988.

(b) The number of tribal villages electrified in Bihar as on 29.2.1988 was 4931 (Provisional). The number of Harijan Bastis electrified in Bihar as on 31.3.1988 was 18406.

(c) and (d). The State-wise allocation of funds for rural electrification for 1988-89 is under finalisation.

Broadcast of Kannada Programmes in Vividh Bharati Service

10457. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the time given for broadcast of Kannada programmes everyday in Vividh Bharati Service from AIR, Bangalore;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the time for broadcast of Kannada programmes in Vividh Bharati Service; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER