

Installation of New T.V. Stations

5103. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) details of the T.V. coverage expected to be expanded during the next two years;

(b) its break up for different regions of the country particularly of Central region covering Madhya Pradesh;

(c) whether the expansion programme is being worked out and implemented in phases; and

(d) if so, salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) to (d). A permanent tower at Lucknow, a TV Centre at Jullundur and a TV Relay Centre at Kanpur are likely to be commissioned during the next two years. While the Lucknow Centre will cover an additional range of 15 kms., the Jullundur and Kanpur Centres will have a range of 80 kms. in Punjab and part of Himachal Pradesh and 75 kms. in Uttar Pradesh respectively. The existing TV coverage in the other regions of the country including Madhya Pradesh is not likely to be further extended during the next two years.

Family Accommodation for Armed Forces Personnel

5104. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that family accommodation for the Armed Forces Personnel in Headquarters, Cantonments, etc., is not adequate to meet the demands for the same;

(b) if so, whether as a result the authorities have accommodation from private house owners in these areas on hire basis to accommodate the personnel but the charges are generally higher than what it is for similar type

of accommodation provided in Civil Services;

(c) if so, whether it is also a fact that as a result of this Defence Administration has to bear heavy financial burden; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to make sufficient accommodation available at cheaper rates?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) to (d). There is deficiency in married accommodation for members of the Armed Forces. To make up this deficiency, hiring of private houses has to be resorted to. Rents paid for houses hired depend upon the scale of accommodation provided, the prevalent market rents in the locality etc. The rent is fixed by a board of officers taking all factors into account and the local civil authorities are also associated with it. The question of rent being excessive or the Defence Ministry having to bear extra burden, therefore, does not arise.

As indicated in page 19 of the Annual Report of the Ministry of Defence for 77-78 and in answer to Unstarred Question No. 8188 given in Lok Sabha on 26-4-1978, the existing deficiencies are to be made up over a period of 13 years from 1978-79 at an estimated cost of Rs. 500 crores at current price level. The need to hire civilian houses will continue to exist till the existing deficiencies are made up under the overall plan.

Withdrawal of Permits issued by D.T.C.

5105. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Transport Corporation is considering to withdraw the permits issued in previous years to private bus owners which were issued on contract basis for augmentation of bus services in the capital;