

The Tamil Nadu Electricity Board have sent a proposal from the General Electric of U.S.A. for the investigation and design of a 25 MW ocean thermal energy conversion (OTEC) plant. The proposal includes the following tasks:—

- (1) Site evaluation and selection.
- (2) Environmental impact study.
- (3) Power module design.
- (4) Plat-form/Ship design.
- (5) Cold water pipe design.
- (6) Utility interface and cable design.

The estimated cost to perform a six-month preliminary design phase has been indicated as \$373400. A guess estimate indicates that OTEC first plant costs would be less than \$5000 per KW and may be as low as \$2200 per KW but are very site specific. The OTEC technology is still in the process of research and development in several advanced countries and requires a great deal of technological development to establish a viable OTEC system. The proposal has not been taken up.

Hyderabad T. V. Station

3359. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the districts covered by the T. V. Station at Hyderabad;

(b) whether news bulletins are issued from the above T. V. Station; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Parts of

Hyderabad, Medak, Nagonda and Mehboob Nagar districts are covered by the T.V. station at Hyderabad.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. The T. V. transmitter at Hyderabad is situated at a distance of 15 kms. from the studio. All the programmes telecast from Hyderabad TV station are pre-recorded in the studio and the video tapes are sent to transmitter for telecast. As news bulletins are instant and live telecast, these cannot be pre-recorded and sent to the transmitter for telecast. Telecast of news bulletins could be considered when a micro-wave link is established between the studio and the transmitter. This link is expected to be commissioned in 1981.

Programmes at Sambalpur T.V. Centre

3360. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after commissioning of the T. V. Centre at Sambalpur the programmes are prepared at Cuttack;

(b) whether Government have received representation from the people of Sambalpur District for setting up of a Doordarshan Studio at Sambalpur so as to enable the local people to participate in the programmes;

(c) if so, the action taken thereon;

(d) the time fixed for telecast from the Centre;

(e) whether Government propose to allow more time for telecast to include more local programme from the station if so, details; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) It has not been possible to set up a Doordarshan Studio at Sambalpur on account of constraints on resources. However, for the production of programmes of local content, Mobile Film and Video Units have been provided at Sambalpur.

(d) One hour and 15 minutes daily, except Saturday, when total duration of transmission is three hours for telecast of feature film.

(e) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to introduce an afternoon educational programme for schools for duration of 20 minutes w.e.f. August, 1980.

(f) Does not arise

Expenditure incurred by candidate in elections

3361. SHRI R. R. BHOLE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a candidate for Assembly or Parliament elections has to spend a very large sum of money;

(b) whether a poor candidate with very little resources cannot stand for election;

(c) are Government aware that he is barred from standing because he is poor; and

(d) whether Government propose to bear the expenses of candidate's workers, transport and printing material in such elections?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS: (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) to (c). There is no legal provision which requires a candidates for an Assembly or Parliamentary election to spend a large sum of money. There is also no provision in any law which disqualifies a person from standing for such election on the ground of poverty. Nevertheless, it is a reality that candidate

for such election incurs a considerable expenditure. All the same several persons with very little resources have, either with the help of a political party or of the voters, contested elections and a number of them have been successful.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

Radio and T.V. Stations in Karnataka

3362. SHRI D. M. PUTTE GOWDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that radio stations installed in Karnataka are not powerful and thus the programmes are not clearly audible in villages situated at a distance of above 60 miles, from radio stations;

(b) whether Government propose to instal a powerful short-wave radio station at Bangalore; if so, when;

(c) when Government propose to Commission Bangalore T.V. Centre, reasons for delay; and

(d) what will be the area covered by Bangalore T.V. Centre and whether Government have any proposals to set up T.V. Centres at other places in Karnataka, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) The 50 KW MW transmitter at Bangalore and the 10 KW MW transmitter at Dharwad have a range of more than 60 miles. Gulbarga 10 KW MW transmitter has a range of more than 60 miles in south-West direction only. The range of 20 KW MW transmitter at Udipi is expected to be about 60 miles only in the northern direction. The range of the 20 KW MW transmitter at Bhadravati, 1 KW MW transmitter at Mysore, 1 KW MW transmitter at Mangalore, 1 KW MW transmitter at Bangalore and 1 KW