

DVC's failure to supply adequate Power to West Bengal

1264. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) why DVC (Damodar Valley Corporation) is failing to supply adequate power to West Bengal; and

(b) per day supply by the DVC to West Bengal for the last 3 months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). Average per day supply of power by the Damodar Valley Corporation to West Bengal for the months of May, June and July 1981 was 5 370, 5,365 and 5,614 million units respectively as against 3,702, 4 134 and 4,814 million units for corresponding period during 1980, which shows an improvement.

Schemes to Finance Film in Regional Language

1265 DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the schemes available to finance regional language films;

(b) how many films in each regional language was financed by the Film Finance Corporation during the year 1980-81; and

(c) whether Government are satisfied about the refund of loans sanctioned for such purposes?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). Production of films is in the private sector. Production and exhibition of films as a subject comes within the purview of State Governments. The Central Government through the National Film Development Corporation, provides loans on easy terms for

production of good quality films irrespective of the language in which film is produced. The Corporation granted/sanctioned loans to 3 feature films and one documentary film in regional languages i.e. languages other than Hindi during the financial year 1980-1981. Out of three regional feature films the Corporation has now decided to produce one film on its own.

(c) Of the four regional films for which loans were sanctioned by the Corporation, production of only one film has started whereas production in two other cases has not yet started. Loans in these three cases have not fallen due for re-payment. As the fourth film is now being produced by the Corporation on its own, the question of recovery of loan does not arise.

Loss of Bag Containing Registered and Insured Letter

1266. SHRIMATI PRAMILA DAN-DAVATE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to his notice that a bag containing registered and insured letters carrying money amounting to Rs. 60,000 was lost in the Dadar Post Office; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Air Coverage to Tribal Populations of North Eastern Region

1267. SHRI CHINGWANG KONYAK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All India Radio has formulated a programme for extending its coverage

to the tribal population of the North-Eastern region;

(b) whether a high power transmitter will be established for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). There is an approved scheme in the Sixth Plan (1980—85) to establish a high power 100 KW Medium Wave Transmitter at Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh. In addition, the following projects have also been approved for more coverage in the North-Eastern Region including tribal areas;

(i) Upgrading the power of high power Medium Wave Transmitter from 100 KW to 300 KW MW at Dibrugarh (Assam) and installation of a high power 100 KW MW Transmitter at Shillong (Meghalaya);

(ii) Upgrading the power of Short Wave Transmitter at Gauhati (Assam) from 10 KW to 50 KW;

(iii) Installation of a High Power 50 KW Short Wave Transmitter at Shillong for an integrated service for North-Eastern Region;

(iv) Establishment of new Radio Stations with 20 KW MW medium

power Transmitter each at Gangtok (Sikkim) and Tura (Meghalaya);

(v) Setting up of a local Radio Station at Diphu (Assam) with a low power 1 KW MW Transmitter.

Policy to provide Telecommunications facilities in the Rural Areas

1268. SHRI B. D. SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the existing policy to provide telecommunications facilities in the rural areas;

(b) how far the present policy has proved rational for the development of rural communications;

(c) whether in view of the experience gained, Government propose to bring about changes in the existing policy to make it more rational to achieve the objective; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON):

(a) As stated in the Statement.

(b) Notwithstanding the financial and material constraints, the present policy has resulted in considerable expansion of telecommunication in the rural areas of the country.

(c) and (d). While no immediate change has been proposed, the policy is reviewed from time to time.

Statement

Policy for Provision of PCOs & COs on loss Categories of Stations

1. District Headquarters.
2. Sub Divisional Headquarters.
3. Tehsil Headquarters.
4. Sub Tehsil Headquarters.
5. Block Headquarters.
6. Places with a population of 5000 or more in ordinary areas and 2500 or more in backward or hilly areas.

Condition for provision of Public Call Offices.

Condition for provision of Combined offices

Will be provided progressively irrespective of loss and without any conditions of minimum revenue.

Will be provided progressively irrespective of loss and without any conditions of minimum revenue.