

Coal Production Target

2549. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the target of coal production and its actual realisation during the past three years ; and

(b) what are the reasons for which coal production has lagged behind the target during these years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA) : (a) The target vis-a-vis the actual production during the last 3 years is as under :

(Million tonnes)

Target Production

1981-82	121	124	(estimated)
1980-81	113.5	114.00	
1979-80	104.31	103.95	

(b) Coal industry achieved its target of production for 1980-81 and is also expected to achieve the target for 1981-82.

There was a shortfall from the target in 1979-80 which was mainly due to inadequate supply of power, disturbed law & order situation in the coalfield areas, difficulties in obtaining land for construction of new mines etc.

Demand of Staff Artists of AIR

2550. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is true that the staff of artists the All India Radio have long-pending demands ;

(b) if so, whether the demands have been considered by Government ; and

(c) if so, which of the demands have been accepted?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Representations have been received from Associations of Staff Artists of AIR and Doordarshan making demand for improvement in their service conditions, better pay scales, improved promotional avenues, pension, etc. Recently, there has been a demand for the conversion of the staff artists as civil servants, Government have also been taking steps from time to time to improve their service conditions, revise cadre structure and fee scales, provide better promotional opportunities. etc.

Government have now decided to to group employees termed as staff artists into two categories.

(c) 'Artists' and

(b) other employees who perform functions similar to those which government servants normally discharge in Government offices.

Employees in category (b) will be treated as government servants.

The conditions of employment of those in category (a) i.e. 'Artists' will be gone into *de nov.* and revised rules drawn up. These conditions will be sufficiently liberal so as to serve the twin objectives of attracting the best talent and discouraging 'artists' from clamouring for being converted to a category of government servants.

Provision will be made in the rules for periodical review of the skill of artists so as. (a) to weed

out those whose contributions cease to be sustained and creative and (b) provide for advancement of those who have continued to make useful and creative contribution in their fields. Appropriate retirement benefits will also be made available to them.

Installation of Optical Fibre Transmission Lines

2551. SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) names of those places where the optical fibre transmission lines have already been installed ; and

(b) names of those places where these lines are to be installed and when, with details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) An experimental optical fibre cable communication project with imported cable and equipment has been commissioned in Pune in 1979 and the system is under operation. 120 telephone junctions has been provided on a pair of optical fibres in this experimental project. Separately, an indigenous optical fibre communication equipment for similar operation has been designed and is working on a second set of fibres in the same optical fibre cable in Pune.

(b) No proposals have been finalised yet.

British Offer of Digital Electronic Telephone Exchange

2552. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a British offer of digital electronic

telephone exchange is under consideration of Government ;

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted or considered the offer; and

(c) if so, with what results ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir. An offer from a British Manufacturer has been received against our global tender for containerised small rural exchanges.

(b) and (c). The tenders are under evaluation.

Terms and Conditions for Grant of Loan for film Production

2553. SHRI D. S. A. SIVAPRAKASHAM Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) how many applications for film production and theatre construction were received during the year 1981 by Film Development Corporation ;

(b) how many applications were sanctioned under each category ;

(c) names of the applicants to whom loans were sanctioned and the amount sanctioned under each category ; and

(d) what are the terms and conditions of grant of loan under each category ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The National Film Development Corporation Limited received 53 loan applications for construction of theatres and 83 applications for