

INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A proposal to use a national satellite in order to achieve full nation-wide television coverage is under consideration. Rediffusion, direct reception as well as limited rebroadcast will be utilised to achieve coverage.

(c) The broad features of the proposal are contained in the book entitled "Atomic Energy and Space Research—A Profile for the Decade 1970-80", copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. Detailed proposals are being worked out for incorporation in the Fifth Five Year Plan.

Development of Agriculture by Industries

4998. **SHRI RAJDEO SINGH:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have come to the conclusion that industry should also back agriculture by producing better agricultural implements and developing better chemicals and fertilisers;

(b) whether development of Agriculture will create more purchasing capacity in nearly 80 per cent Agriculture population and lead to development of industries; and

(c) whether Agro-based industries will boost the Agriculture if located within the rural areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). Yes Sir. It is the continuing effort of Government to promote the growth of agriculture by improving agricultural inputs as well as equipment and

materials required for the growth of agricultural production. For this reason, the highest priority is attached to the development of the fertilisers, pesticides and other industries essential for agricultural growth. At the same time, Government also believe that it is only with the development of agriculture that the standards of living of the vast masses of the people can be improved, both directly by improving nutrition and consumption standards, as well as by providing the raw materials for industrial growth and by increasing the purchasing power of the people engaged in agriculture. Government believe in this connection that the development of agro-based industries would encourage the growth of agriculture if such industries are located close to areas of production/consumption, depending on the nature of the industries.

Issue of Letters of Intent and Licences for Cigarettes

4999. **SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters of intent and licences issued for cigarette industry during 1971-72; and

(b) whether the letters of intent will meet the requirements of Fourth and Fifth Plans?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) During 1971-72 twelve letters of intent for the establishment of New Undertakings for the manufacture of cigarettes were issued for an aggregate capacity of 51,600 million pieces per annum. No industrial licence was issued during that period.

(b) When these schemes are implemented, they are expected to meet the demand for cigarettes during the fourth and fifth plans.