

की राशि संवर्धन हुआ था। जांच प्रति-
बेदन उप-राज्यपाल को प्राप्त हो गया है
और उस पर विचार किया जा रहा है।

Expansion of T.V. Industry

426. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the details about expansion of T.V. Industry during the Fifth Plan period have been finalised; and

(b) the production target during the Fifth Plan and the extent to which it would meet the demand as against the anticipated requirements?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting have submitted their plans to the Planning Commission for the growth of the AIR TV network during the Fifth Plan period. On the basis of a proposal made by the Department of Space, the Planning Commission has appointed a Task-Force to examine all aspects connected with the use of a geo-synchronous satellite, (referred to as INSAT), over India, largely for purpose of television, which would enable complete coverage of the country in principle, and a significant coverage in practice, in terms of possible deployment of television stations and receivers on the ground; this Task Force has completed its work. The Planning Commission has now to finalise details relating to the growth of television in terms of the above proposals in relation to overall national priorities for the Fifth Plan. As soon as this is done, other aspects relating to the numbers of TV receivers needed, and production of these as well as of TV components

will be finalised, and action taken to achieve the production targets.

Suggestions made by the Committee on distribution of Essential Commodities and articles of mass consumption

427. SHRI VEKARIA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state the action taken by Government on the recommendations and suggestions made by the Committee on the distribution of essential commodities and articles of mass consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): The Committee on Essential Commodities and Articles of mass consumption will be shortly submitting its report. Appropriate action will be taken when the recommendations of the Committee are available.

Telephone ratio in India as compared to South East Asia

428. SHRI VEKARIA:

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telephone ratio in India is the lowest in the South-East Asia;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to increase it?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) The telephone to population ratio in India is low but not the lowest in South-East Asia. The telephone density (number of telephones for 100 population) for India was 0.2 against