

Indian papers may close down for want of newsprint;

(b) whether Press in India is threatened by shortages of newsprint; and

(c) whether most of the country's newspapers will have to close down?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA) : (a) A news agency message quotes the International Press Institute as saying in its annual review :

"Faced with completely inadequate paper supplies most of the 521 Indian dailies will be forced to close down if drastic measures are not taken without delay".

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is hoped such a situation would not arise in view of the steps taken by Government to meet the shortage, and voluntary regulation of publication by newspapers.

DISCUSSIONS WITH CHIEF MINISTERS ON SIZE OF PLAN FOR EACH STATE

1102. SHRI P. GANGADEB :
SHRI P. M. MEHTA :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether discussions were held with the Chief Ministers of various States during the last week of December, 1973 at New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether any settlement was reached with them as regards the size of the plan for each State for 1974-75; and

(c) if so, the salient features of the settlement reached in respect of each State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : (a) to (c). The discussions with Chief Ministers/Governors of various States and Union Territories on their Annual Plans for 1974-75 were held from 1st January

to 12th February, 1974. However, the sizes and the contents of the Plans of individual States have yet to be finalised on the basis of these discussions.

MANPOWER DIFFICULTIES ENVISAGED IN RADIO AND T.V. INDUSTRIES

1103. SHRI P. GANGADEB :
SHRI SHRIKISHAN
MODI :

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Radio and Television Industry is expected to face manpower difficulties in the near future; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to study for manpower situations in specific industries ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) and (b). The Department of Electronics has supported the establishment of Centres for training manpower at various levels. It has also undertaken an analysis of the situation in respect of manpower in the field of electronics. The proposed study will include an assessment of detailed categories of man power requirements in the various areas of electronics. On the basis of this study, further action will be initiated to upgrade existing training programmes and to also start new courses in electronics and allied fields. The Department also plans to operate a scheme for the meaningful utilisation of Indian Scientists and technologists who have had experience abroad in Electronics.

ISSUE OF LICENCE FOR MANUFACTURE OF FINISHED LEATHER TO TATAS

1104. SHRI P. GANGADEB :
SHRI N. SHIVAPPA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any licence has been granted to Tatas for the manufacture of finished leather and leather garments;