

Name of SDCA	Bimonthly Rentals	Total Switching Capacity of the SDCA
1. Ernakulam	Rs. 360/-	1,98,888
2. Kottayam	Rs. 275/-	64,951
3. Muvattupuzha	Rs. 275/-	31,314
4. Thodupuzha	Rs. 200/-	19,016

Rural concession on rentals is not applicable to any of the exchanges in the above SDCAs at present as the SDCA capacity for all of them is above 1000 lines.

Construction of AIR Station in Orissa

478. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- the number of new AIR stations under construction at present in Orissa;
- the present stage of construction work on Soro radio station at Balasore District in Orissa;
- whether any target date have been fixed for its completion; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) Two new Radio station at Soro and Rairangpur in Orissa are presently under construction.

- Building works are in progress.
- and (d) Yes, Sir. The projects are targetted for completion in 1999-2000.

Doordarshan Relay Centre at Chandigarh

479. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- whether the Union Government propose to start a Doordarshan relay centre at Chandigarh;

- if so, the details thereof;
- the time by which it is likely to be completed and start functioning; and
- the total amount to be spent on the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) to (d) Terrestrial TV coverage at Chandigarh is available from High Power Transmitter (HPT), Kasauli for National programmes. Low Power Transmitter (LPT), Chandigarh (located at Kasauli) relays Punjabi regional service programmes. Besides this, an LPT is functioning at Chandigarh for relay for metro channel DD-II.

There is no scheme for setting up of any additional DD relay centre at Chandigarh.

TV Transmitters in Kerala

480. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- The number of TV Transmitters functioning at present in Kerala, location-wise and District-wise;
- the number TV projects of varying capacity pending in the State, location-wise and District-wise;
- the time by which the pending projects are likely to be made operational; and
- the details of the new TV Transmitters proposed to be set up in the State; location-wise and District-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) A Statement in enclosed.

(c) and (d) All transmitters presently under implementation are expected to be completed during the year 1999 with the exception of HPT, Cannanore which is expected to be completed in 2 to 3 years, time, subject to availability of resources, infrastructural facilities, staff and inter se priorities. Setting up of new transmitters is an ongoing process, subject to availability of resources, infrastructural facilities, staff and inter se priorities, till full coverage of the State.

Statement

District	Existing transmitters	Transmitters under implementation
1	2	3
Alappuzha	LPT, Chengannur LPT, Kayamkulam	
Ernakulam	HPT, Cochin LPT, Cochin (DD-II)	HPT, Cochin (DD-II)
Idukki	LPT, Idukki LPT, Thodupuzha VLPT, Devikolam	