

- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and
 (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) It was not a Gherao but four or five Telephone Advisory Committee Members of MTNL Delhi met CGM jointly during the visiting hours and requested to hold TAC meeting early. The meeting of TAC will be held immediately after the Winter Session of Parliament.

[English]

Colossal Waste of Fruits and Vegetables

658. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKAR RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to State :

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up food processing units in the country especially in North-Eastern States;
 (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
 (c) the details of steps taken by the Government to prevent the colossal waste of fruits and vegetables?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up any food processing unit directly in any State. However, the Ministry operates its own Plan Schemes for the growth and development of the processed food industry. Under these schemes, financial assistance in the form of soft loan or grant-in-aid is made available to Industry, Non-Governmental Organisations, Cooperatives, Research and Development Institutions and Human Resource Development Centres. The Plan Schemes envisage higher rates of financial assistance in respect of projects set up in North-Eastern States.

(c) The Ministry has given considerable importance and thrust to the development of Fruit and Vegetables Processing Sector under its Plan Schemes. During the period 1992-98, the Ministry provided assistance to various projects in this sector in the following manner. For development of infrastructural facilities in this sector the Ministry has provided about Rs. 18 Crores to 76 units having project cost of Rs. 191 crores. These units were for setting up of pre-cooling, cold store, mushroom projects, gerkins and hops projects. Two projects for setting up of food parks, one in Kerala and another in West Bengal were also assisted. For setting up/expansion/modernisation of fruits and vegetables units, the Ministry has provided about Rs. 15 Crores to 44 projects having total project cost of Rs. 288 crores.

The Ministry supported 17 projects of Research and Development and establishment/upgradation of quality control and analytical laboratories.

The Ministry supported establishment of 250 Food Processing and Training Centres in the country. These Centres are primarily meant for imparting training for fruit and vegetable processing in addition to providing hands-on experience to

prospective rural entrepreneurs.

Such activities would inter alia result in reduction of post-harvest losses of fruits and vegetables.

[Translation]

Study on the Working of AIR/Doordarshan

659. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any study has been conducted on the working of All India Radio and the Doordarshan;
 (b) if so, the details thereof;
 (c) whether the complaints of unsatisfactory broadcasting/transmission and excessive interruption in some of the centres of AIR and Doordarshan are being received continuously;
 (d) if so, the details of such complaints received during the last seven months;
 (e) whether representations have been received about collusion of the permanent employees of the Doordarshan and the AIR with other private T.V. Channels; and
 (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Institute of Mass Communication have made a study on the working of All India Radio Network. They have submitted their report recommending on Functioning, Personnel, Programme and Technological aspects of All India Radio Network. However, no study has been undertaken on the functioning of Doordarshan.

(c) and (d) No specific complaint about unsatisfactory broadcasting has been received by All India Radio. However, Doordarshan has received several complaints about bad quality of transmission of its signals mainly from viewers of Cable Homes of larger cities. Doordarshan has been continuously advising the viewers that they should pursue with their cable operators to provide signals directly from the INSAT satellites by installing a separate dish antenna for Doordarshan channels.

- (e) No, Sir.
 (f) Does not arise.

[English]

660. DR. ULHAS VASUDEV PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have submitted any proposal to include terrorism under the jurisdiction of the proposed international criminal court;
 (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) the reaction of the other countries on India's proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. In the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of the Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court held at Rome, Italy from 15 June-17 July, 1998, India, Sri Lanka and Turkey made a joint proposal to bring act of terrorism within the jurisdiction of the court.

(b) The Indian proposal was intended to cover an act of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations involving the use of indiscriminate violence intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror, fear and insecurity in the minds of the general public resulting in death or serious bodily injury and serious damage to property, irrespective of any considerations and purposes of a political, ideological, philosophical, racial, ethnic or religious nature that may be invoked to justify it. The proposal also included any serious crime which is the subject matter of a multilateral convention for the elimination of international terrorism.

(c) Majority of the countries felt that due to the complexities involved in defining the crime of terrorism, it will not be possible to reach a consensus on this issue in the Conference.

In the Treaty adopted at the Rome Conference only three core crimes were included in the Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC)—the crime of genocide, war crimes and the crimes against humanity.

Article 123 of the Rome Statute provides that 7 years after the entry into force of the Statute, the Secretary-General of the UN shall convene a Review Conference to consider any amendment to this Statute including the list of crimes covered under the Statute. However, the Rome Conference adopted a Resolution, which while regretting that no generally acceptable definition of the crimes of terrorism and drug crimes could be agreed upon for the inclusion, within the jurisdiction of the Court, recommends that a Review Conference pursuant to Article 123 consider the crimes of terrorism and drug crimes with a view to arriving at an acceptable definition and their inclusion in the list of crimes within the jurisdiction of the court.

India shall make all efforts with like-minded States for the inclusion of the crime of terrorism in the jurisdiction of the Court.

Posting of Staff at S. S. A. Rajouri and Udhampur

661. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the clerical staff of S.S.A. Rajouri and Udhampur (J&K) is still operating from Jammu; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to post the staff in respective S.S.A.'s?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Initially, there was one division at Jammu i.e. DET, Jammu which was subsequently bifurcated into two divisions i.e. DEP Jammu and DET Jammu who were looking after the

urban and rural areas of Jammu province respectively.

DET Jammu was subsequently converted as TDE Udhampur with Hd. Qr. at Jammu.

Further TDE Udhampur at Jammu was bifurcated in two SSAs i.e. Udhampur and Rajouri. On forming of these two SSAs there was resentment and agitation from clerical staff of TDE Udhampur at Jammu Office for not disturbing them from Jammu to these two SSAs.

(c) Volunteers/Compassionate appointees have been posted in the Office of TDE Udhampur and TDE Rajouri to run these offices from respective Headquarters.

Cultivation of Cocoa

662. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the shortcomings in the cultivation of cocoa in the country; and

(b) the measures taken by the Government to propagate cocoa cultivation in view of high profit margin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The constraints in the production of cocoa in the country is mainly due to the factors like low productivity of plantations of indisrupt seedling progenies, susceptibility to pest and disease, fluctuating prices, inadequate marketing network and low degree of interest in the farming sector. The Government launched a Central Sector Scheme on Development of Cocoa during the 8th Plan with an outlay of Rs. 3.00 crores against which an amount of Rs. 2.80 crores was released to the State Governments of Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

The scheme was continued during the year 1997-98 at an outlay of Rs. 60.00 lakhs and is being implemented during 1998-99 with an outlay of Rs. 70.00 lakhs. The scheme envisages distribution of vegetatively propagated plants, rejuvenation of unproductive orchards, establishment of clonal seed gardens, setting up of irrigation units, establishment of demonstration plots and providing financial assistance to cooperatives for marketing and training of farmers.

Maintenance of Balance of Power

663. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to make NAM an independent force with a view to maintain balance of power and multipolarity in the world and to prevent a super power from dominating the world affairs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : The XIth NAM Summit was held in Durban, South Africa on September 2-3, 1998. The Summit demonstrated the continued relevance of NAM as an independent political force in the world, India participated actively in its deliberations to reinforce the traditionally independent NAM positions on a range of political, social and economic issues.