

Clearance of Commercial Serials on Doordarshan

2898. SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of commercial and tele-serials sanctioned on the commission basis during the last three years;

(b) the amount sanctioned by the Government for these serials;

(c) the number of serials pending with Doordarshan for clearance; and

(d) the reasons for delay in clearance of serials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) (a) and (b) During the last three years a total number of 672 tele-serials were commissioned and an amount of Rs. 6296.92 lakhs was sanctioned by Doordarshan for these serials.

(c) 499 proposals, Sir.

(d) Clearance of serials under the commissioning scheme depends upon completion of necessary formalities by the private producers, availability of funds, and the time taken by Doordarshan in processing the proposals as per the laid down procedure.

Service Conditions of P&T Officers

2899. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a silent march was undertaken by the All India P&T Accounts Officer on December 2, 1998 to highlight their poor service conditions;

(b) if so, the details of their demands;

(c) whether in spite of the recommendations of the Fast Tract Committee and approval by the Cabinet their service conditions have not been redressed; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) As per a news paper report, a silent march was organised by the said association on 2nd December, 1998.

(b) to (d) Their demands mainly include grant of higher pay scales to JAOs/AOs/Sr.AOs/CAOs, the release of a fresh promotion list for AOs/ACAOs; fixation of ad-hoc norms for creation of Accounts posts for TR computerisation; holding the JAOs departmental examinations on a regular basis and Vertical bifurcation of Indian P&T Accounts and Finance Service Group 'A' etc. These are complex issues which need inter-ministrial consultations.

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects

2900. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the sources from which irrigation facilities are being made available in each State particularly in Gujarat;

(b) the present status of irrigation capacity in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the details of steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the irrigation facilities in the country particularly in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Details of sources of irrigation in the States of the country including Gujarat are as under:

| Sources | Net Irrigated Area (in thousand hectares) | |
|----------------|--|-------------|
| | All India | Gujarat |
| Govt. Canals | 16582 | 593 |
| Private Canals | 560 | — |
| Tanks | 3111 | 35 |
| Tubewells | 17937 | 724 |
| Other Wells | 11860 | 1642 |
| Other Sources | 3460 | 8 |
| Total | 53510 | 3002 |

(b) State-wise details of irrigation potential created and utilised in the country till the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan (i.e. 1996-97) are given in statement-I enclosed.

(c) With a view to create more irrigation facilities in the country through expeditious completion of ongoing major and medium irrigation and multi-purpose projects, Government of India launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during 1996-97. Under the programme, Central Loan Assistance (CLA) is being provided to State Governments for selected ongoing major and medium irrigation multi-purposed projects which are beyond the resource capability of the State Governments, and are at advanced stage of construction and can be completed with a little financial support. The State-wise details of Central Loan Assistance released under the programme since 1996-97 are as under:

| CLA released under AIBP | | (RS. in crores) |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Year | All India | Gujarat |
| 1996-97 | 500.00 | 74.77 |
| 1997-98 | 952.19 | 196.90 |
| 1998-99 | 434.73 | 112.71 |

Besides, the Government of Gujarat has taken the following steps to increase the irrigation facilities in the State:

- (i) providing canal lining in old canal systems which are unlined;
- (ii) extension, renovation and modernisation of old canal systems;
- (iii) adoption of sprinkler/drip irrigation method;
- (iv) economical and optimum use of irrigation water;
- (v) implementation of various recharge works such as recharge wells, percolation tanks, village tanks, spreading channels and minor schemes as well as check dams;
- (vi) transfer of water for irrigation purpose from surplus area to deficit area through connecting link canals and pond system;
- (vii) tapping surface water resources through medium and minor irrigation schemes;
- (viii) early completion of on-going major and medium project.

Statement

*Irrigation Potential Created and Utilised Through Major & Medium/Minor Irrigation Schemes
Till the end of VIII Five Year Plan, 1996-97 (Provisional)*

(In thousand hectares)

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | Potential created | | | Potential utilised | | |
|---------|-------------------|-------------------|---------|--------------|--------------------|---------|---------|
| | | Major & Medium | Minor | Total Medium | Major & Medium | Minor | Total |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 3047.10 | 2901.87 | 5948.97 | 2883.80 | 2637.16 | 5570.96 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 83.42 | 83.42 | 0.00 | 65.34 | 65.54 |
| 3. | Assam | 196.67 | 592.76 | 789.43 | 138.17 | 484.45 | 622.62 |
| 4. | Bihar | 2802.50 | 5108.24 | 7910.74 | 2324.20 | 4573.70 | 6897.90 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-----|------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 5. | Goa | 13.02 | 20.52 | 33.54 | 12.07 | 17.77 | 29.84 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 1350.00 | 1935.30 | 3285.30 | 1200.00 | 1839.62 | 3039.62 |
| 7. | Haryana | 2078.79 | 1576.77 | 3655.56 | 1833.62 | 1531.82 | 3365.24 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 10.55 | 150.38 | 160.93 | 5.59 | 128.42 | 134.01 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 173.70 | 378.68 | 552.38 | 147.57 | 364.64 | 512.21 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 1666.02 | 1531.01 | 3197.03 | 1471.70 | 1488.71 | 2960.41 |
| 11. | Kerala | 513.31 | 573.12 | 1086.43 | 464.31 | 537.49 | 1001.80 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 2178.30 | 2657.52 | 4835.82 | 1551.30 | 2422.02 | 3973.32 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 2313.00 | 2619.20 | 4932.20 | 1287.70 | 2341.10 | 3628.80 |
| 14. | Manipur | 63.00 | 60.39 | 123.39 | 52.00 | 51.19 | 103.19 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 0.00 | 46.64 | 46.64 | 0.00 | 40.33 | 40.33 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 0.00 | 12.71 | 12.71 | 0.00 | 11.20 | 11.20 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 0.00 | 67.24 | 67.24 | 0.00 | 57.93 | 57.93 |
| 18. | Orissa | 1557.75 | 1357.47 | 2915.22 | 1442.66 | 1227.05 | 2669.71 |
| 19. | Punjab | 2512.85 | 3354.17 | 5867.02 | 2452.34 | 3296.12 | 5748.46 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 2285.57 | 2421.24 | 4706.81 | 2086.31 | 2336.78 | 4423.09 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|--------------|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 21. | Sikkim | 0.00 | 26.23 | 26.23 | 0.00 | 20.59 | 20.59 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 1545.51 | 2115.22 | 3660.73 | 1545.49 | 2111.36 | 3656.85 |
| 23. | Tripura | 2.30 | 92.58 | 94.88 | 2.30 | 84.03 | 86.33 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 7059.00 | 23595.00 | 30654.00 | 6126.00 | 21923.00 | 28049.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 1444.08 | 3217.37 | 4661.45 | 1332.52 | 2576.90 | 3909.42 |
| Total-States | | 32813.02 | 56495.05 | 89308.07 | 28359.65 | 52218.72 | 80578.37 |
| Total-UTs | | 18.22 | 112.15 | 130.37 | 9.00 | 104.32 | 113.32 |
| Grand Total | | 32831.24 | 56607.20 | 89438.44 | 28368.65 | 52323.04 | 80691.69 |

Setting up of Radio Station in Bihar

2901. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision was taken to set up a Radio Station in the Dhanbad district of Bihar;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) whether demand for land was made to the Bihar Government and the Public sector Undertaking Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. for setting up radio station at Dhanbad;

(d) if so, whether the land has since been acquired; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) to (e) A proposal to set up a Radio Station with 6 Kilowatt FM Transmitter at Dhanbad (Bihar) was included in the 8th Five Year Plan. The Government of

Bihar was requested to make a suitable site available. M/s Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) offered a piece of land for the proposal in 1993 and the Minister of Coal was approached to approve the transfer to the said land. In the meantime, BCCL withdrew the offer and therefore, land could not be acquired. Due to constraints of resources, the project has not been included in the 9th Plan.

[English]

Public Telephone Facilities

2902. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of PCOs are inadequate to meet the requirement of the people at large and they have to wait for a long time to make calls;

(b) if so, the number of PCOs in the country;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase their numbers;