

(b) and (c) 30% of the sanctioned amount is released is 1st instalment subsequent instalments are released on the basis of progress in implementation of the projects and utilisation certificates furnished by the State Governments, A project is to be completed within a period of 30 months of sanction.

[Translation]

37

National Highway (S)

Construction of By-Pass between Mohan Sarai and Mughal Sarai

3505. SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Border Roads Organisation is constructing the by-pass on G.T. Road in Varanasi (U.P.) from Mohan Sarai to Mughal Sarai;

(b) if so, the reasons for non-completion of the work by the target date of February-March 1999; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be finished now?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Progress of work suffered due to irregular and inadequate flow of funds, unprecedented and incessant rains in September 1995, August 1996 and in 1998, inclement weather during Nov/Dec 97 & Oct 98 and delay in handing over of the approaches of Railway Over Bridge (ROB) to BRO.

(c) Works are planned for completion by 31 May 1999.

[English]

37-38

Kerala

Power Cuts in Doordarshan Kendra at Trivandrum

3506. SHRI P. SANKARAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Doordarshan Kendra at Trivandrum always face frequent power cuts;

(b) if so, the measures taken to have uninterrupted flow of electricity to the Kendra;

(c) whether the Government are considering to introduce a news headlines bulletin at the close of the transmission after the usual film at night on DD-4;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) Power supply at Doordarshan Kendra, Trivandrum is provided through two independent feeder lines and interruption in service for 2 minutes occurs each time the source of power supply is changed from the mains to diesel generator and vice versa. Total breakdown in service on account of power supply failure is within half percent of entire duration of transmission.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Reasons are constraints of resources, manpower and other infrastructural facilities.

38

Transfer of AIR, DD Staff to Prasar Bharati Corporation

3507. DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA : SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Transfer of AIR, DD staff to Prasar-Proposals pending before Ministries" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated February 2, 1999; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is guided by the provisions of the Prasar Bharati Act.

38-39

Denial of Threat from China

3508. SHRI SHANKAR PANNU : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item published in the 'Times of India' dated March 22, 1999, under the caption "China denies posing threat to India, calls for dialogue";

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the follow-up action, if any, taken in regard thereto?