

- Annual grants-in-aid from the government till Prasar Bharati becomes self-sufficient from advertising and commercial revenue;
- Revival of an annual or lumpsum Broadcast Receiver Licence Fee for television sets;
- The cost of running public service broadcasting channels to be met from Government's funding by way of grant-in-aid, equity or loan;
- Certain suggestions relate to creation of professional marketing set-up, aggressive marketing strategies, dedication of particular channels to education, etc.

Handling of High Power Locos at Asansol

2442. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Asansol electric shed is capable for handling of high power electric locos;
- (b) if so, reasons for not homing high power locos at Asansol;
- (c) whether the Government are considering for homing high power electric locos at there; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The existing infrastructure facilities at Asansol electric locoshed are suitable for maintenance of 4 axled locomotives and not for 6 axled high power locomotives.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Expansion of certain facilities like inspection pits, cranes of higher capacity etc. will be undertaken in due course, when 4 axled locos are phased out and 6 axled high power locomotives are homed for maintenance.

[Translation]

Direct Train from Delhi to Rewa

2443. SHRI BUDHSEN PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether no direct rail services has been provided from Delhi to Rewa in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the time by which the Prayag Express upto Rewa is likely to be started;

(e) whether any survey has been conducted for linking Singrauli with Rewa rail line;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) The feasibility of providing direct train service between Rewa and Delhi has been examined but not found feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Based on the results of the survey, the work of construction of a new line from Lalitpur to Satna and Rewa to Singrauli at a cost of Rs. 925 crores has been included in the Budget 1997-98. The work would be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.

(g) Does not arise.

Annual Budget to Doordarshan

2444. SHRIMATI NISHA A. CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Doordarshan, New Delhi sends the annual budget to various Doordarshan Kendras to prepare commissioned and royalty programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount given to these Doordarshan kendras as budget during the last three years alongwith the names of the kendras which were not sent the budget amount;

(c) whether the annual budget for the year 1997-98 has been sent to all the Doordarshan kendras;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for delay and by which time it would be given to them?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Launch of Unit of NTPS in West Bengal

2445. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are going to launch more three units at NTPS in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) No such proposal has been included in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(c) Implementation of Stage - II of Mejia Thermal Power Station (MTPS) in West Bengal by the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) will depend upon various factors including techno-economic clearance of the proposal availability of funds power demand-supply position in the DVC Valley and the Eastern Grid.

Welfare Programmes for Youths in J & K

2446. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of various programmes for welfare of rural youths launched by the Union Government during the last two years in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) the achievement level of each of them as on date?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment has not launched any welfare programme during last two years for youths in the country including the State of Jammu & Kashmir. However, Training of Rural Youths for Self Employment (TRYSEM) is an ongoing programme being implemented by the centre throughout the country including J&K for providing technical and entrepreneurial skill to rural youths from the families living below poverty line so as to enable them to take up employment. Besides, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) are also on-going wage/self employment programmes being implemented by the centre through out the country including the State of J& K for the persons living below poverty line including the rural youths in J&K.

(b) Achievements under above programmes in J&K during 1995-96 and 1996-97 are as under :

Programme	Achievement		Unit
	1995-96	1996-97	
TRYSEM	4326	4294	No. of Youths Trained
JRY	48.23	18.36	Lakh mandays generated
EAS	129.96	91.66	-do-
IRDP	13189	11474	No. of families assisted

[Translation]

Water Testing Laboratories

2447. SHRI LINGARAJ VALYAL : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the States where the water quality testing laboratories were set up under the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission during the last three years; and

(b) the number of farmers benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) The information is given in the attached Statement

(b) The aim of setting up of laboratories is to monitor the quality of drinking water supplied to rural areas and generate awareness about water quality among rural masses.

Statement

Name of State	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	Total
Assam	15	-	-	15
Haryana	-	4	-	4
Himachal Pradesh	-	8	-	8
Jammu & Kashmir	4	-	-	4
Meghalaya	-	-	1	1
Uttar Pradesh	37	-	-	37
West Bengal	-	6	-	6
Total	56	18	1	75

[English]

Claims filed by Rail Users

2448. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of claims filed with the Chief Claims Officer, Northern Railway, New Delhi during the last six months by rail users on the ground of inconvenience caused to them due to cancellation and rescheduling of train without intimating them in advance;

(b) whether no claims have been settled during the said period; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No separate data about filing of claims for refunds on account of absence of advance intimation about cancellation/rescheduling of trains is maintained.