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Conversion of MTNL into Giobal Corporation

2070. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D.CHAVAN: SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have shelved the proposal to convert Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.(MTNL), into a global corporation;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government have worked out a special package for MTNL to give it a functional autonomy from

the Deptt. of Telecommunications; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) No, Sir. There was no such proposal under consideration.

- (b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Question does not arise in view of (c) above.

[Translation]

Loss to Doordarshan

2071. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL: SHRI RAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCAST-ING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Doordarshan has suffered a loss of Crores of rupees on Chitrahar and by extending special concessions to the serials "World this Week" and "Chandrakanta":
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government propose to revise the guidelines for improving the quality of programmes; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.
- (d) and (e) Changes/modifications in the existing guidelines for telecast of programmes in various formats on Doordarshan are carried out from time to time according to the changing requirements.

Upgradation/Expansion of Doordarshan Kendras

2072. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCAST-ING be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government for upgradation/ expansion of some Doordarshan Kendras during the Eighth Plan period, State-wise;
- (b) whether requests have been received from various State Governments in this regard;
 - (c) If so, the details thereof, State-wise;

- (d) the action taken thereon so far;
- (e) whether many projects are behind the schedule;
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the time by which these are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (g) Requests for upgradation/expansion of Doordarshan Kendras (DDKs) are received, from time to time, from various quarters including some State Governments. Schemes for expansion of DDKs at Mumbai, Nagpur, Delhi, Ranchi and Rajkot are presently under implementation as part of 8th Plan. Civil works in respect of all these projects are in progress and part equipments already procured. While there has been some delay in completion of civil works and non-availability of requisite resources and infrastructural facilities and constraints of funds, the projects are expected to be completed, in phases, by 1998-99.

Running of Delhi-Patna Rajdhani Express Via Moradabad

2073. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether suggestions regarding running of Delhi-Patna Rajdhani train, via Moradabad and Bareilly have been received; and
- (b) if so, the time by which these suggestions are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal to divert New Delhi-Patna Rajdhani Express via Moradabad-Bareilly.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Airports in Gujarat

2074. SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of projects launched for the modernisation of airports and aviation facilities in Gujarat during the last three years;
- (b) whether the progress made in respect of these projects has been as per the schedule; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) A statement is attached.

- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.