

30-9-1989 and to manufacturing activities by 31-12-1989, provided the projects were approved by the State Level Committee/District Level Committee on or before 30-9-1988 i.e. within the validity period of the Scheme. The Government of Kerala had submitted reimbursement claims amounting to Rs. 11.16 crores. As the subsidy in respect of the units contained in the claims was not approved by the State Level Committee/District Level Committee on or before 30-9-1988, these claims could not be reimbursed.

Assistance to New Sugar Cooperative Factories

1173. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of machinery of sugar factory has increased considerably; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to take for extending financial assistance to the new sugar cooperative factories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Central Government does not give any financial assistance for establishment of new sugar factories. However, the Central Financial Institutions grant loans to new sugar factories after the due appraisal of their projects.

Funds for Industrial development of Kerala

1174. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala have sought financial assistance from the Union Government for industrial development in the State; and

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned by the Union Government during 1991-92 for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) Financial assistance to States is given in the form of Central assistance for financing State plans. The normal gross Central assistance for Kerala's State Plan for 1991-92 was approved at Rs. 301.00 crores excluding externally aided projects (EAP). The outlay approved for the State's industries sector including Village and Small Industries for 1991-92 is Rs. 84.15 crores.

[Translation]

Setting up of Akashvani Centre at Sitamarhi

1175. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up an Akashvani centre at Sitamarhi in Bihar;

(b) whether the broadcast from Sitamarhi would be expanded to Motihari, Betia, Madhubani areas bordering Nepal;

(c) whether any survey was conducted in the past in Sitamarhi regarding the proposal for setting up of an Akashvani centre;

(d) if not, whether Government would get a survey conducted by sending a team of experts; and

(e) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Sitamarhi receives primary grade day time coverage from the existing 100 KW MW Transmitter at AIR, Patna and the 10 KW MW Transmitter at Darbhanga. Similarly, while both Motihari and Bettia districts receive radio coverage from the 100 KW MW Transmitters at Patna and Gorakhpur, Madhubani receives radio coverage from the 100 KW MW Transmitter at Patna and 10 KW MW Transmitter at Darbhanga.

There is, therefore, no proposal to conduct any survey at Sitamarhi.

[English]

Setting up of TV Stations by State Governments

1176. SHRI SYED SHAHABUD-DIN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to permit State Governments to establish TV stations at various places in the State to focus on programmes of State or regional interest.

(b) whether any State Governments have expressed interest in establishing such stations;

(c) whether the Government are considering National level private channels which would compete with the Doordarshan at the national level;

(d) if so, whether any organisations or entrepreneurs have shown interest in establishing a second channel; and

(e) the conditions under which such TV stations or channels would be licensed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) No such request has been formally received from any State Govt. in the recent past. However, requests were earlier received for handing over the Second Channels to the State Governments. These were not agreed to at that time in the context of plans to free the electronic media from Governmental control.

(c) It is not possible to spell out the details at this stage as the modalities for introducing competition in the electronic media require extensive study before these are firmed up.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) It is not possible to spell out the details at this stage.

Stock of Sugar

1177. SHRI SYED SHAHABUD-DIN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the opening stock of sugar in the country at the beginning of the sugar year (October-September) as on October 1, 1988;

(b) the annual production, year-wise, since 1988-89;

(c) Imports during each sugar year since then, year-wise;

(d) the internal consumption during each sugar year since then, year-wise;

(e) the quantity exported during each sugar year, since then; and

(f) estimated production, import, export and consumption during the current sugar year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The opening stock of sugar in the country at the beginning of sugar year as on 1st October, 1988 was 25.32 lakh tonnes.