

vey 1988-89 and 1989-90 placed on the Table of the House on 15-3-1990 and 27-2-1991 respectively.

### **Expansion of AIR, Aurangabad**

3071. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity of Aurangabad radio station;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up a Vividh Bharati station in Marathwada region;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the transmission capabilities of Parbhani radio station; and

(d) if so, the time by which the proposals are likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There are no such proposals under the consideration of the Government at present.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The augmented studio facilities have been made technically ready.

### **Items distributed through Public Distribution System**

3072. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the items of public consumption distribution through the Public Distributed System, Statewise;

(b) whether subsidised clothes i.e. Sarees and Dhotees are also being supplied to the poor consumer; and

(c) the financial burden on the Union and the State Governments in operating the Public Distribution System, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The Central Government allocates to the State Governments/UT Administrations, for supply through Public Distribution System (PDS), key essential commodities like wheat, rice, levy sugar, imported edible oils and soft coke. State Governments/UT Administrations are free to add additional items of mass consumption for distribution by using PDS outlets.

(b) Subsidised clothes like Sarees and Dhotees are distributed to the consumers through various outlets.

(c) The expenditure incurred in subsidising the distribution of wheat and rice in the year 1990-91 was about Rs. 2142 Crores.

Statistics regarding State-wise expenditure on subsidise and the State Governments' own expenditure on operating the PDS are not maintained in this Ministry.

[Translation]

### **Priority to SC/ST for allotment of Fair Price Shops**

3073. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to direct the State Governments

to accord priority to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people in the allotment of shops under Public Distribution System ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) The Central Government have requested the State Governments and U.T. Administrations to consider fixing of quota for issue of licences for Fair Price Shops, Kerosene Depots, Coal Depots etc. under the Public Distribution System for persons belonging to S.C./S.T. communities. Many of the State Governments and U.T. Administrations have been either fixing such quotas, or giving priority to people belonging to these communities in issue of licences.

[English]

#### Time to Commercial Agencies on Television

3074. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of 'prime time' on television being made available to commercial agencies; and

(b) whether the government propose to curtail this percentage?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) The concept of "Prime Time" is the convenience of the viewers and the popularity of the programmes. No single slot can be exclusively treated as

prime slot. Presently, about 2.5% of the transmission time features commercial advertisements.

(b) No, Sir.

[Translation]

#### Production Capacity of Sindri Fertilizer Factory

3075. SHRIMATI RITA VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production capacity of the Sindri Fertilizer Factory has been falling considerably due to its constantly deteriorating condition;

(b) if so, the loss suffered annually due to falling production; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check this loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The capacity utilisation of Sindri fertilizer factory during the last two years has shown a downward trend compared to production during the earlier two years.

(b) The losses suffered annually including loss due to fall in production during the last four years are as follows:

Year	(Rs. in crores)
1987-88	16.39
1988-89	23.69
1989-90	29.75
1990-91	41.14 (Provisional)

(c) the steps taken by Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. to check the losses are as follows:—

(i) Replacement of turbine casing and three leaky revexes in Synthetic Gas Compressor.