

Seminar on Electronics and Telecommunications in Hyderabad

2028. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any International Exhibition and Seminar on Electronics and Telecommunications is proposed to be held at Hyderabad during 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the countries likely to participate in the Seminar; and

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred in organising this Seminar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal by the Government to organise any International Exhibition and Seminar on Electronics & Telecommunications at Hyderabad during 1991. However, some private organisers had proposed to hold such a seminar-cum-exhibition at Hyderabad from 11-14 July, 1991 which was however, not held.

(c) USA, Canada, Brazil, U.K., Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Belgium, Netherlands, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Japan, Hongkong, South Korea, China, Taiwan, Singapore, Australia, USSR and East European Countries were expected to participate in the Seminar.

(d) This Seminar was planned by the organisers to be run on a no profit basis at an estimated expenditure of Rs. 10 lakhs.

Certification of Video Cassettes

2030. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the circulation of Video cassettes require censor certificate under the Act;

(b) whether all the Video-cassettes in circulation have obtained such a certificate before circulation; and

(c) if not, the action taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Under the Cinematograph Act, 1952, any film, whether celluloid or video, is required to be certified by the Central Board of Film Certification for its public exhibition;

(b) and (c) It is not feasible to gather information from all over this large country as to whether all the video cassettes in circulation have obtained censor certificate. However, there are reports in various quarters about showing of uncertified video films in video parlours and their being rented out by video libraries. Enforcement of the provisions of the Cinematograph Act relating to public exhibition of films, after certification, and action against breach of the provisions rests with State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. As such, they have been advised time and again for strict implementation of the provisions of the Act and to take action against the offenders.

Development of Electra Van

2031. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited have developed a battery-operated vehicle known as Electra Van which is noise-free and petrol-free;

(b) if so, the speed and cost of operation of the said vehicle; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to put them on road on a commercial scale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Electra Van can cruise at a speed of 40 Kms/hour and its cost of operation is 85 paise per k.m.

(c) At present 146 vehicles are running successfully and Govt. is giving cash subsidy of Rs. 1 lakh per vehicle to promote the sale of these vehicles.

External Services Division for Broadcast of Telugu Programmes

2032. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any external services division in AIR for broadcasting Telugu programmes;

(b) if so, the names of the countries to which the said programme circuit is provided at present;

(c) whether there is any request for Telugu External service circuit from other countries; and

(d) if so, the names of such countries and the action proposed to provide the said circuits?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Telugu programmes are broadcast by the external services division of All India Radio.

(b) Telugu service covers East and South East Asia regions, which include Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Kumpuchia, Laos, Hong Kong and Burma.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Subsidised Rice Under ITDP

2033. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the date from which the scheme of subsidised rice under Integrated Tribal Development Project was introduced in the country;

(b) the date from which this scheme was introduced in Karbi Anglong and N.C. Hills districts in Assam;

(c) whether the Government to propose to compensate the delay, if any in the introduction of the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The scheme for supply of wheat and rice at specially subsidised prices to the inhabitants of ITDP areas and the tribal majority States was announced in November, 1985 and implemented from December, 1985.

(b) The ITDP Scheme was extended to the Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills districts of Assam in April, 1990.

(c) and (d) The proposal to include aforesaid districts in the ITDP Scheme was approved by the Government on 29-3-1990. Since the scheme was extended to these areas the question of any compensation does not arise.

A.I.R. Station at Diphu

2034. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the stage of construction and commissioning of the All India Radio station at Diphu (Assam);

(b) whether the construction and commissioning of the said radio station has been delayed;