

allow us to speak. It is an important question. We are new comers.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down now. You have been a Minister in the Maharashtra Government. You should understand that this cannot be allowed in the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Meghe, please take your seat. You have been a Minister and you should understand this. I have allowed half an hour to this question.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: You are not allowing us to speak. You always rebuke us.

[English]

Mr. Speaker You do not understand. That is why, I have to talk to you. Please take your seat now.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Then what for have we come here? We are leaving

MR. SPEAKER: You may go.

11.44 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Datta Meghe left the House

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK: He had been a Minister for Civil Supplies.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why, he is going. I gave half an hour to this question. Now next question.

AIR Station At Jabalpur

*591. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed 200 K.W. radio station of Jabalpur has started functioning;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action proposed for speeding up the implementation of the above project;

(d) whether there is any proposal to use the existing 20 KW transmitter at Jabalpur for the Vividh Bharati Commercial services;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which such transmissions are likely to start?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) to (f). No, Sir, Apart from the fact that frequency clearance for simultaneous operation of 200 KW MW and 20 KW MW transmitters at Jabalpur is not available, the latter transmitter has practically outlived its useful life.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Concerning (d), (e) and (f) parts of the answer of the hon. Minister, I would like to know regarding frequency clearance for simultaneous operation of 200 KW MW and 20 KW MW transmitters at Jabalpur. I would like to know whether the Government will make efforts to obtain frequency clearance for this purpose.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): The frequency clearance is given by the International Telecommunication

Union, shortly known as ITU, stationed at Geneva. The clearance in MW Band does not permit simultaneous operation on 20 KW MW and 200 KW MW transmitters because of mutual interference. But we have obtained a clearance in so far as FM band is concerned and Jabalpur is going to get that very soon.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: I do not understand this part of the answer of the hon. Minister that "the latter transmitter has practically outlived its useful life." I have very reliable information that by merely entailing nominal expenditure, Vividh Bharati commercial services could be easily started at Jabalpur. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the amount involved for starting Vividh Bharati commercial services and whether the Government would take appropriate action and steps to bring the Vividh Bharati commercial services to Jabalpur.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: The life of these transmitters is twenty years maximum. It has put in 26 years service; but knowing the importance of the business area, specially the business activities of Jabalpur, arrangement has been made for Jabalpur having a 10 KW FM transmitter and that is being set up very soon with necessary studio office, receiving facilities and staff quarters. This will also have a stereo compatible voice, so that it will be nicely audible and useful.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: My essential question was whether the Vividh Bharati will be brought to Jabalpur.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: I said yes, through a 10 KW FM transmitter.

SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PAT-TANAYAK: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is considering to expand the Vividh Bharati commercial services in Orissa during the 8th Five Year Plan. If so, the details thereof.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: In the 8th Five Year Plan there is no plan so far as Orissa is concerned regarding Vividh Bharati.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT: Mr. Speaker, will the Vividh Bharati Service be started from Raipur and Bilaspur also alongwith Jabalpur?

[*English*]

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: We are taking one by one according to the need of the particular area.

[*Translation*]

Consumer Protection Act, 1986

*592. **SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 is being implemented by all the States;

(b) if so, the State-wise/Union-Territory-wise number of cases registered thereunder since 1989, year-wise; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government so far to implement the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 stringently and to make it more effective?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir. As per the information available, State level Consumer Protection Councils have been set up in all the States/UTs. Redressal machinery has also started functioning in all States/UTs. except in 4 States of Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya and Sikkim. The Act does not extend to the State of Jammu and Kashmir which has