

producers to telecast news programmes from Doordarshan:

(b) if so, the details thereof and its impact on media; and

(c) the details of other major policy changes under consideration/finalisation under new Electronic Media Policy?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Finalisation of Bills on Broadcasting and Amendment to Prasar Bharati Act is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Passenger Amenities at the Railway Stations of Maharashtra

348. SHRI NAMDEO DIVATHE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of such Railway Stations in Maharashtra where Restaurants, Waiting Rooms, Drinking Water facility, Retiring Room and Shed over the platforms are not available;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide these facilities at these stations during the current financial year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). Facilities such as drinking water, waiting halls, seating arrangement and latrines are provided at all stations. Amenities such as refreshment rooms, retiring rooms, sheds on platforms etc. are provided based on the importance of the station, the volume of traffic handled at the station and the number of long distance trains stopping, originating or terminating at the station. Therefore, the availability of amenities at all Stations will not be uniform. Important stations and stations with a large volume of traffic are provided with all amenities whereas smaller stations, with a relatively meagre volume of traffic, are not provided with the same quantum of amenities.

However, as a continuous process, the Railway conduct surveys to ascertain the adequacy of amenities at every station and the deficiencies, wherever noticed, are made good by including suitable works in the Railways Annual Work Programmes and subject to the availability of funds.

The Ministry of Railways, however, does not maintain this information state-wise.

[English]

Doordarshan/AIR Projects in Orissa

349. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of projects for setting up of AIR stations completed/Pending in Orissa, location-wise;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon so far;

(c) the details of the Doordarshan/AIR projects proposed to be undertaken during the current plan period;

(d) the number of such projects likely to be set up in Tribal Areas, separately?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) As in statement enclosed.

(c) and (d). AIR plans to start two more schemes of Local Radio Stations in tribal areas at Soro and Rairangpur, whereas DDn proposes to set up three additional transmitters at Berhampur, Bahalda and Paikamal for which schemes are yet to be approved. This is in addition to 37 transmitters (including those in tribal areas) Studio set up at Bhawanipatna and Sambalpur (Permanent Set up) which are under implementation in Orissa.

STATEMENT

S No	Name of scheme	Commissioned on	Capital expenditure (Rs. in lakhs) (Approx.)
1	2	3	4
@1	Local Radio Station at Berhampur	1.4.1993	274.93
2	Local Radio Station at Bolangir	29.12.1993	242.87
@3	Local Radio Station at Rourkela	20.4.1995	297.45
4	Local Radio Station at Puri	29.6.1995	168.08
@5	New Radio Station at Bhawani Patna	30.12.1996	697.22
6	LRS at Joranda	3.10.1995	186.60
7	Upgradation of 20 KW MW Tr. to 100 KW at Jeypore	16.9.1993	195.41
8	Stereo channel with 6 KW FM Tr. PB Studio at Cuttack	27.5.1994	39.48

1	2	3	4
9	Upgradation of 20 KW MW Tr to 100 KW at Sambalpur	Yet to be Commissioned	280.64
10	New 50 KW SW Tr. at Jaypore	-do-	62.22
11	Regional Staff Training Institute (Technical) Bhubaneswar	-do-	1202.63*

* Total project cost

@ Located in tribal areas

Satellite Time to Private Channels

350. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Doordarshan has decided to lease satellite time to private channels; and

(b) if so, the terms and conditions thereof and how much satellite time is proposed to be so leased?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Industrial Labourers

351. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of the labourers working in various industrial units of Madhya Pradesh who are facing the negligence/violation of labour laws by Managers and the State Governments;

(b) if so, whether these labourers are being paid wages less than the minimum wages fixed by the Government and they are treated as bonded labourers and are forced to sign their resignation letter and loan papers at the time of joining; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Extension of Ahmedabad Airport

352. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the Government propose to take over the acquired land for extension of Ahmedabad airport;

(b) whether any budgetary provision has been made by the Government to take up the extension work during the current year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) The acquired land at Ahmedabad airport has already been taken over by Airports Authority of India in August, 1996. However, certain obstructions like water pipe line has to be diverted by the State Government before the work can commence.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The detailed estimates are under preparation.

[Translation]

Contractual Labourers in Bokaro Steel Plant

353. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of contractual labourers engaged in public and private steel industries and particularly in Bokaro Steel Plant;

(b) since when such labourers are working;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide them Government service; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

Reduction in Running Time of Trains

354. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are considering to reduce the running time between Delhi and North-Eastern States and between Calcutta and North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). Speeding up of trains is a continuous process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility. 4055 Brahmaputra Mail has been speeded up by 25 minutes from 1-10-96.