

- (ii) Need to set up a full-fledged TV station at Phulbani instead of the proposed low power transmitter

SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL (Phulbani): Government of India have identified many places for the establishment of low power transmitters during the Seventh Plan. Phulbani in Orissa has been identified as one such place. But no step has been taken to materialise the above proposal so far.

Phulbani is ideally located for setting up T.V. station. A place called Kalunga Ghati in this district is situated at a height of 4000 ft. above the sea level. There are many such places in Phulbani which can be considered as suitable sites. If a T.V. station is located at any such places it will cover a portion of Ganjam, Koraput and Balangir distt. All these districts are mostly tribal populated.

In view of this, I request the honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting to set up a full-fledged T.V. Station in Phulbani district instead of the low power transmitter that is presently considered.

- (iii) Demand for setting up a colour TV studio in Goa

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Goa is the home land of many a renowned artists the country has today. The place is made colourful by the nature too.

Recently, hon. Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Mr. Vithalrao Gadgil announced in the Lok Sabha that the Government had decided to establish colour T.V. studios in all the Capitals of the States.

The decision of the Government and the initiatives taken by Shri Gadgil are really praise worthy. The Government's efforts in spreading the network of T.V. relay stations throughout the country in a short space of time has also widely been appreciated.

However, I would like to stress that a colour T.V. Studio in the colourful land of Goa is the need of the hour. Union Territories should not be discriminated as against States.

It is hoped that our Minister, Shri Vithalrao Gadgil, will soon announce the granting of a Colour Studio to colourful Goa.

[Translation]

- (iv) Demand for putting a curb on deforestation in Rajasthan

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if wanton felling of trees is not immediately stopped in Rajasthan, the whole state would turn into a desert. Forests, which were once treated as "green gold", are being ravaged and used as fuel even today. Only a small portion of forest is now left in the hill areas of Kota district and Rawat Bhatta and Masarrodgarh of Chittor district. The area around Naya Gaon, Boravas and Dolia villages is a reserved forest. The forest division Aonli Rojadidara is also a games Sanctuary. Thousands of people come in gangs, indulge in wanton felling of trees during the day and load them in trucks in the presence of forest officials. They also load big logs on motor cycles and even on bicycles and take them away in broad day light. Nobody is able to check them. If this continues, the reserve forests in Rajasthan would be completely destroyed. When will this be stopped? Crores of rupees are being spent on afforestation in the hope that the damage caused by felling of trees would be made good. But deforestation is even more and it neutralises the effort. As there is a nexus between the forest officials and these people, the felling of trees has become an occupation for them. These ravagers of 'green gold' cannot be checked without the help of Police or army. The local people are afraid of them. I would, therefore, request the Central Government to hear the wail of the Aravalis in this respect and prevent Rajasthan from becoming graveyard of forests.

[English]

- (v) Need to Convert metre gauge rail line between Guntakal and Hyderabad into a broad gauge line

SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO (Chikballapur): Thousands of passengers