

(iii) Need to link Ahmedabad and Rajkot T.V. stations with other Kendras by microwave.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat): As part of expansion of T.V. network in the country, Union Government have installed about 30 low power T.V. transmitters and three high power transmitters in Gujarat. The Government of Gujarat and Surat Corporation have cooperated by making available land, building etc. for low power transmitters. More over, with a view to giving benefits of T.V. programmes into the rural mass, the State Government has evolved a scheme of community T.V. for installing T.V. sets in villages under matching contribution basis.

The Regional T.V. Transmission network is extremely limited and confined to Ahmedabad and Vadodara only. There is no linkage between the T.V. Stations like Surat, Vadodara in Gujarat through uplink or microwave. The State Government and M.Ps. of Gujarat have represented to the Union Government and the Government had assured that uplink facility would be made available to Gujarat from June, 1992. But so far, no steps have been taken to provide facility of linkage. In the absence of such a linkage in Gujarat State, important programmes on culture, music, art etc. in the regional language prepared by Ahmedabad and Rajkot cannot be shown to the people throughout the State.

I, therefore, request the Union Government to give microwave linkage to Ahmedabad and Rajkot T.V. stations with other Kendras with immediate effect. It is also necessary to have a microwave link between Ahmedabad and Delhi to transmit important events of the State on the same day on national network.

(iv) Need to harness natural gas of "Adamitila" for generation of power and Assam.

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj): Unprecedented load-shedding has been going on in Barak Valley of Assam. As the sources of supply of electricity are limited in Assam, it has to depend on the neighbouring States of Meghalaya, Tripura and Manipur. But apart from hydel or thermal projects, natural gas is another source of power, which is in abundance in Barak Valley. A huge quantity of natural gas is coming out at "Adamitila" near Patharkandi of Karimganj district, Assam. This natural gas can easily be harnessed for generation of power to reduce the heavy load-shedding in the said Valley.

So, I urge upon the Government to look into the matter and to do the needful at a very early date.

(v) Need to ensure the implementation in toto of the decisions of the central government regarding demands of Food Corporation employees union

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, the Food Corporation Employees Union with a membership of about 70,000 employees of FCI and with 95 per cent membership was on an agitation for their just and legitimate demands. From 15th May, 1992, they were to go on strike. At the intervention of several members of Parliament, a discussion ensued between the Minister of State for Food and Leaders of the Union where Members of Parliament were also present. Some important decisions were taken and the Minister informed the Members of Parliament about these decisions in writing agreeing that they would be implemented. The agitation was therefore withdrawn at the request of the Members of Parliament. It is