

provides services to an estimated 78 per cent of population of the State which would increase to about 92% on completion of the spill over schemes of the VIII Plan. This compares quite favourably to the national average of about 76% of population at present and 84% to be achieved on commissioning of projects initially sanctioned under the VII Plan.

(b) Whereas there is no proposal at present to set up a TV transmitter at Jhanjhar-pur in Madhubani district of Bihar, it is the endeavour of Doordarshan to provide TV service to the uncovered parts of the country as expeditiously as possible, dependent upon availability of funds.

[English]

Chairman of UTI

7418. SHRIKUSUMAKRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman of the Unit Trust of India has been replaced; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b). Dr. S.A. Dave has been appointed Chairman of the Unit Trust of India with effect from 30th March, 1990, with the former Chairman having proceeded on leave.

Opening of Bank Branches in Bilwara District

7419. SHRI HEMENDRA SINGH BANERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the banks which have applied for issue of licences for opening their branches in Bhilwara district of Rajasthan;

(b) the locations where these banks propose to set up their branches; and

(c) the time by which licences are likely to be issued to these banks?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c). Under the Branch Licensing Policy (1985-90), allotment of centres in the rural and semi-urban areas was made by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to banks on the basis of lists of identified centres received from State Governments. Under this Policy, RBI allotted 18 rural and semi-urban centres to various banks in Bhilwara District of Rajasthan and the banks have opened branches at the centres allotted to them. The banks are expected to apply for opening of new branches after the new licensing policy will be announced by RBI.

News Item "India on the Brink of a Debt Crisis"

7420. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI:

SHRI T. BASHEER:

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "India on the brink on a debt crisis" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 27th March, 1990;

(b) if so, the reaction of Indian Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to assert its authority under Article 292 of the