

Approval of 'Chanakya' Serial

1645. PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether historical serial "Chanakya" has been pending for approval for the past few years;

(b) if so, whether the Government has a system of avoiding such administrative delays in the interest of enterprising serial makers; and

(c) if so, when the serial is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRISUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (c). The serial on 'Chanakya' has been approved and scheduled for telecast with effect from 17.2.1991, subject to the producer's complying with necessary formalities.

Clearance to proposal for elephant habitat

1646. SHRI BALVANT MANVAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has received any renewed proposal seeking clearance of about Rs. 20 crores to be spent over a four year period for proper management of elephant habitat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Planning Commission has cleared the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal has

been received from the Ministry of Environment & Forests, on 5th September, 1990 for starting "Project Elephant". It envisages an expenditure of Rs. 19 crores during the Eighth Plan.

(b) The objectives of the proposal, as sent by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, are given below:

(i) To ensure long term survival of identified viable elephant populations

(ii) To tackle the problematic elephant populations that are causing serious depredation in different areas.

(c) A final view on the proposals which can be included in the Eighth Plan will be taken shortly.

Facilities in remote sensing centre in Karnataka

1647. SHRI SHRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka had requested the Union Government to assist that State in strengthening its Remote Sensing Centre;

(b) if so, the specific suggestions made by the State Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of the facilities provided by the Union Government for further strengthening the State Remote Sensing Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Karnataka has sought technical and financial assistance for

the State Remote Sensing Technology Utilisation Centre (KSRSTUC) under National Natural Resources Management System (NNRMS) Programme of the Department of Space (DOS) for buying essential equipment and data.

(c) The Department of Space (DOS) as the nodal agency for NNRMS has extended not only technical help for establishing the Karnataka State Centre but also has sponsored several remote sensing application projects being carried out by the State Centre, like Ground Water Potential Zone Mapping, Agricultural Drought Monitoring, Wasteland Mapping, Ring Road Alignment mapping for Bangalore city etc. The State Centre will also get some financial assistance for buying essential equipment like digital image processing systems photo processing equipment etc., depending on the technical progress and matching grant made available by the State Government.

T.V. Network

1648. DR. VENKATESH KABDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Cable T.V. network operating in India;

(b) the number of such projects sanctioned State-wise in the years 1990-91; and

(c) the details of the policy being followed with regard to grant of permission for Cable T.V. network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) As per a commercial survey in May, 1990 about 3,500 Cable TV networks are estimated to be operating in the country.

(b) and (c). The establishment of a cable TV network in the country is covered under the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 administered by the Ministry of Communications. No licence is required for laying a cable within a private premises. However, dish antennae systems can be established only after obtaining a licence from the Ministry of Communications.

Development of Khadi Industry

1649. SHRI C.M. NEGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey for development of Khadi and Gramodyog in the Garhwal districts of Uttar Pradesh has been undertaken; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA) (a) and (b). No special survey has been undertaken by KVIC for development of Khadi and Gramodyog in the Garhwal districts of Uttar Pradesh. However, Khadi and Village Industries Commission is already having development programmes in tribal areas including Garhwal districts of Uttar Pradesh. The programmes include supply of improved tools and equipments on subsidized basis. The scheme for tribal areas also provides liberalised pattern of assistance as compared to such assistance for other areas. KVIC schemes in these areas are carried on departmentally as well as through institutions. Among the industries which provide large employment opportunities for the weaker sections of the community in the area; mention can be made particularly of woollen khadi, cottage leather, seed collection for extraction of non-edible oils for manufacture of soap, bee-keeping, fibre and many other forest based industries.