

Demand For Second Channel by Orissa Government

10476. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government of Orissa has made a demand for second channel of television to telecast programmes in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to meet this demand?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided, in principle, to introduce Second Channel TV Service in 16 additional cities, including Bhubaneshwar (Cuttack), under the Eighth Plan, subject to availability of funds.

Proposal For Conducting Programmes in Second Channel on T.V. and A.I.R. by Private Agency

10477. SHRI A.R. ANTULAY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to conduct certain programmes in the second channel of T.V. as also in A.I.R. entirely by private agencies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Opening Balance of Items Kept for Sale in Customs House Retail Shops

10478. SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur): Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 30th March, 1990 to Unstarred Question No. 2947 regarding sale of confiscated sarees and state:-

(a) whether Government propose to display daily the pending balance of the items kept for sale in All Customs House retail shops; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b). The feasibility of displaying daily the opening balance of the items kept for sale in all Customs House retail shops is under examination.

[*Translation*]

Children's Programmes in Hindi

10479. SHRI MOHAN LAL JHIKRAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to telecast children's programme like 'Micky Mouse' in Hindi also.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (c). Such programmes are at present acquired by Doordarshan mainly from international sources as the requisite facilities and specialised expertise needed for their indigenous production are scarce. It is, nevertheless, the endeavour of