

to Officers.

- (iv) Wage agreement should be settled with recognised union, Staff Welfare Association, Nagpur.

(c) The total number of non-executive employees of the Company are 9049 and 205 at the mines sites and at headquarters respectively. After obtaining Government approval, the management of MOIL have signed a Memorandum of Agreement on 14.2.1990 with Rashtriya Manganese Mazdoor Sangh, the majority union representing the employees at the mines. Over 99% of the employees at these sites have drawn their arrears in accordance with the provisions of this wage agreement. The implementation of the agreement with respect to the remaining employees is under progress.

[English]

Coverage of Andhra Pradesh by Doordarshan

8269. SHRI P. PENCHALAI AH.
SHRI B.N. REDDY.
DR VISHWANATHAM.

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the districts of Andhra Pradesh are covered by Doordarshan;

(b) if not, the districts yet to be covered;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to cover the remaining districts including the northern part of Srikakulam district by Government; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). All the 23 districts of Andhra Pradesh are covered by TV serv-

ices, either wholly or partially.

(c) and (d). TV service is expected to improve in Anantapur, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Chittoor and Nellore districts consequent on commissioning of the high power TV transmitters under implementation at Anantapur and Tirupati envisaged to be commissioned into service during 1990 and 1991 respectively. It is the endeavour of Government to further improve TV service in the State as expeditiously as possible depending upon the availability of resources for the purpose.

New Serial on DATE

8270. SHRI SARJU PRASAD SAROJ: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start a new serial on Drug Education and Tobacco Education [DATE]

(b) if so, the duration of the serial and the date from which it would be started; and

(c) the main and precise features of the serial?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) No such serial, at present is slotted for telecast on the national net of Doordarshan.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Setting up of Doordarshan Kendra in Hissar

8271. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in setting up Doordarshan Kendra at Hissar; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). It has been recently decided in principle to set up a TV Studio Centre and a 10KW transmitter at Hissar in Haryana, subject to availability of funds. The lead time for completion of projects of this nature is about four years after commencement of civil works at the site.

Interest charged by Nationalised Banks on NABARD Loans

8272. SHRI D.M. PUTTE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Deposit Insurance Corporation of India was formed mainly to give security to banks for loans provided to poor people under several popular schemes of Government;

(b) whether the Reserve Bank of India has instructed all the nationalised banks to collect 1.5 per cent interest on all the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) loans mentioning it as fees for the Deposit Insurance Corporation of India;

(c) whether bank advances are secured to a maximum of Rs. 25,000 in case of bad debts;

(d) whether the 1.5 per cent interest is charged on all the NABARD development loans irrespective of the amount involved; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken by Government so that the 1.5 per cent interest is not charged on the amount of loans which exceed Rs. 25,000?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (e). The Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) was established to achieve the twin objectives of giving protection to small depositors in banks and providing guarantee support to credit extended by eligible credit institutions to certain categories of small borrowers particularly those belonging to the weaker sections of society. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had advised all scheduled commercial banks on May, 1989 as under:

(i) Banks will continue to bear the guarantee fees in respect of advances to weaker sections, pure consumption loans etc. as hitherto.

(ii) In the case of advances where the banks charge interest of 16 per cent or more, the banks will have to absorb the guarantee fees.

(iii) In all other cases, the banks should ensure that the lending rate as stipulated together with the guarantee fee, irrespective of whether it is levied separately or not, does not exceed 16 per cent.

1. The above instructions issued by RBI apply to all priority sector advances and were made applicable from April 1, 1989.

2. It has been decided by DICGC to bring into force the enhanced guarantee fee rate of 1.5% per annum uniformly from April 1, 1989. The Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) will however, continue to pay guarantee fee at the rate of 0.755 per annum till they complete 5 years of their joining the Small Loan (SSI) Guarantee Scheme and after which they would pay the guarantee fee at the rate of 1.5% per annum as