

pleted and we have decided to go in for a global tender. Now, the whole proposal is going to the PIB. I have kept myself to the target date and I feel that within the next two weeks, the proposals for the PIB clearance will go from our Ministry to the PIB.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, though there is a general shortage of steel in our country but out of the various qualities of it available, the actual production of some of them is on a very high side while there is a heavy shortage of some other qualities. For example, I would like to refer to the production of tin plates. There is acute shortage of these in the country. At present tin plates are used in the packing of almost every commodity. But due to scarcity of tin plates, the small scale industry has been the worst sufferer since they do not get tin plates for manufacturing containers etc. As such, will the hon'ble Minister take some steps so as to provide immediate relief to the tin plate industries?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, I do admit that there are varying degrees of shortages so far as different items are concerned. We are facing external input problems also. However, we are trying to pump money in the massive modernisation programmes that we have. Within the sphere of shortage, we try to observe and try to maintain the industry as far as possible. Within our limitations, we are trying to help them. Still, we have a check on the demand and supply position and whatever is possible from our end, we will try to do.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Improvement in News Bulletins

*126. **SHRI D.M. PUTTE GOWDA:**

SHRI R. GUNDU RAO:

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

(a) whether Doordarshan is planning extensive improvements in the news bulletins and their contents which would include a half-an-hour news bulletin each in Hindi and English in its national programme instead of 20 minutes at present; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision in this regard would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) and (b). It is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to improve the quality of its news bulletins. The duration of Hindi and English news bulletins telecast on Saturdays and Sundays in the evening on National network has recently been increased from 20 minutes to 30 minutes. Extension of duration of news bulletins on other days will be considered later.

Family Pension Scheme for RBI Employees

*127. **SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is a demand from the employees of the Reserve Bank of India for introduction of family pension scheme as is applicable to Central Government employees; and

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). A draft scheme for introduction of pension, including family pension, as a retirement benefit, in lieu of Contributory Provident Fund, has been received by the Government from the Reserve Bank of India and the same is under consideration in the Government.

Import of Mercedes

*128. SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of persons who imported Mercedes D-240 cars from Japan during 1984;

(b) the price of the Cars as per the invoice and Customs duty paid by each;

(c) how the customs duty is valued on optional accessories in the absence of invoice; and

(d) in what cases and on what criteria the world catalogue price is taken into consideration for assessing the customs duty and what is the rationale behind it?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Valuation of optional accessories of cars is done in terms of the provisions of Section 14 of the Customs Act, 1962, read with Customs Valuation (Determination of Value of Imported Goods) Rules, 1988 framed thereunder, which also provide for valuation in cases where invoice is not available.

(d) Assessment of value of motor-vehicles in relation to manufacturer's price list/world car catalogue is resorted to where assessment cannot be made in terms of Rules 4, 5, 6 & 7 of the Customs Valuation (Determination of Value of Imported Goods) Rules, 1988. The manufacturer's price list/world car catalogue price represents the most authentic and

reasonable basis for arriving at the assessable value of motor-vehicles.

Construction of tourist homes in Maharashtra

*129. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI AHER: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a Tourist Home at Nasik and Trimsak in Maharashtra by the India Tourism Development Corporation for the convenience of pilgrims visiting there; and

(b) if so, the time by which the construction work is likely to commence and the target date of its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Farm loans to primary sector

*130. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total amount of farm loans disbursed to primary sector through various nationalised banks and co-operative banks during the years ending June, 1989 and June, 1990, separately?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): The amount of direct agriculture loans outstanding by Public Sector Banks stood at Rs. 12,920 crores as at the end of June, 1989. It rose to Rs. 15,082 crores as at the end of March, 1990 which is the latest available data. In the case of Cooperatives, the short term loans outstanding as at the end of June, 1989 were Rs. 4,335 crores. The medium and long-term loans outstanding of Cooperatives were Rs. 4,878 crores as at the end of this period. Similar data for June, 1990 for cooperatives are not available.