

[*Translation*]

Doordarshan Kendra in Madhya Pradesh

1494. SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the coverage given to various programmes and activities undertaken in Madhya Pradesh vis-a-vis other States, in the news bulletins and other programmes of Doordarshan since January, 1990, till date month-wise;

(b) the steps being taken by Government for giving due coverage to Madhya Pradesh on Doordarshan; and

(c) the number of Doordarshan studios in Madhya Pradesh in comparison to other States?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) Doordarshan, within the limitations of its existing resources, gives due coverage to events and activities taking place throughout the country including Madhya Pradesh. The information on relative coverage given to different States over a period of time is not maintained as such.

(c) Whereas a full-fledged TV Studio Centre and a Programme Generation Facility (PGF) Centre are under implementation at Bhopal and Raipur respectively in the State of Madhya Pradesh, two Electronic News gathering (ENG) units have been stationed at Raipur for field coverages.

The programme generation facility exists at present in 15 States and the Union Territory of Delhi.

Poor Reception of T. V. Transmitter Surat, Gujarat

1495. SHRI KASHIRAM CHHABILDAS RANA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware

of the poor reception capacity of the lowpowered television transmitter commissioned at Surat;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to improve the quality of transmission;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the power of existing television station; and

(d) if so, when?

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

(a) and (b) While the TV transmitter at Surat is reported to be functioning normally, the reception of TV signals in certain parts of the city has deteriorated because of the obstruction caused by some tall buildings constructed in the immediate vicinity of the transmitter site. This situation can be rectified to a great extent by increasing the height of the mast carrying the transmitter antenna. With this in view, Doordarshan has obtained the clearance from competent authorities for increasing the mast height from the existing 100 feet to 200 feet. The follow up action to increase the mast height accordingly has also been initiated.

(c) and (d) The establishment of a TV transmitter of a higher radiating power depends upon the availability of funds for the purpose.

[*English*]

Opening of Tourist offices in Foreign Countries

1496. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to open more tourist offices in foreign countries to disseminate tourist information and attract tourists;

(b) the number of offices opened so far; country-wise; and

(c) the number of offices likely to be opened during the next five years?