

the Conference of Chief Justices convened by him on 31st August and 1st September, 1990 will also consider the matter of appointment of Judges, and has requested the Government to await the views of the Chief Justices' Conference on the proposed Commission.

The request of the Chief Justice of India is receiving the attention of the Government.

[*Translation*]

Poor Reception of Doordarshan in Khandwa, M.P.

1583. SHRI AMRATLAL VALLABHDAS TARWALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan programmes cannot be viewed clearly in Khandwa, (M.P.); and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the steps being taken to remove these defects and the time by which these are likely to be removed?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) No, Sir. The low power TV transmitter at Khandwa is reported to be functioning normally and is providing satisfactory service within its service area.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Waiver of Agricultural loans in Mizoram

1584. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to waive agricultural loans up to Rs. 10,000/-;

(b) if so, the number of persons in Mizoram who are eligible for debt relief under the above scheme, district-wise;

(c) whether Government will bear the total amount involved in waiver of such loans granted to people of Mizoram since Mizoram is a non-industrial State and formed as a special category State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) The Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990 formulated by Government of India provides for debt relief to the extent of Rs. 10,000/- to eligible borrowers from public sector banks and regional rural banks. The State Governments including Mizoram have been advised by Central Government to formulate a similar scheme in respect of cooperative banks.

The scheme is uniformly applicable to whole of India, and as such, the question of categorising the States according to their status of development, industrially or otherwise, does not arise. While the burden of debt relief to be provided under the scheme by public sector banks and regional rural banks will be borne by the Central Government, that in respect of cooperative sector will be shared equally by the Central and State Governments. The exact number of beneficiaries and quantum of relief provided under the Scheme will be known only at the final stage of implementation of the Scheme.

[*Translation*]

Loans Advanced by State Bank of India to industrial units

1585. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loans advanced by the State Bank of India to

industrial units which was outstanding as on June 30, 1990;

(b) whether the financial position of some of these units is not sound and they are lying closed;

(c) if so, the number of such units and the amount of loans provided to these units;

(d) whether the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has chalked out certain plans for the revival of these units; and

(e) if so, the number of these units?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) State Bank of India has reported that the total amount of loans advanced by the SBI to Industrial units including small scale units which was outstanding as on June 30, 1990 is Rs. 16.497 crores.

(b) and (c) The number of units, including SSI units, whose financial position is not sound are reported to be 70,799 and loans sanctioned to these units amount to Rs. 413 crores.

(d) BIFR, which has been established under Section 4 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 has jurisdiction for rehabilitating sick companies which are in the non-SSI sector. In the case of all such units the law provides that on a reference being made to them, BIFR must take cognizance of such companies in order to attempt their rehabilitation in accordance with the said Act.

(e) 181 units, of which:

(i) rehabilitation packages finalised	38
(ii) winding up notices issued	20
(iii) rejected or yet be registered	50
(iv) hearing is in progress	73
Total	181

Setting up of a unit song and drama Division in Pithoragarh, U.P.

1586. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a unit of Song and Drama Division in Pithoragarh district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) whether this unit is likely to be set up during 1990-91?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Doordarshan Tower at Pithoragarh (Uttar Pradesh)

1587. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the transmission of the Doordarshan Tower at Pithoragarh in Uttar Pradesh has been poor for quite a long period;

(b) if so, the details of the complaints received in this connection;

(c) whether steps have been taken to remove these complaints; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) The low power TV transmitter at Pithoragarh is reported to be functioning normally, but its coverage is somewhat limited because of the obstructions caused by the hilly terrain of the area.

(b) to (d) Complaints regarding poor coverage of the transmitter have been