

I said the price can be revised only in consultation with the States.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Amarsingh Rathawa.

Financial Assistance to Panchayats for Purchase of T.V. Sets

407. **SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :**†

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide financial assistance to village panchayats to enable them to purchase T.V. sets for the benefit of villagers or to provide T.V. sets to village panchayats ;

(b) if so, the details of Central assistance given to each State during the Sixth Five Year Plan and the number of panchayats covered ; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to introduce this scheme during the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) :

(a) to (c) A statement is given below.

Statement

As a part of the VI Plan scheme for TV utilisation of INSAT, 2000 VHF and 2000 Direct Reception (capable of receiving TV signals directly from satellite) TV sets for community viewing are under installation by Doordarshan at villages in selected three-district clusters in the six States of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa Maharashtra, Gujarat, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. The distribution of these TV sets is as under :

Name of State	No. of VHF TV sets	No. of Direct Reception TV sets
Andhra Pradesh	...	400
Orissa	...	400
Maharashtra	600	300
Gujarat	400	300
Bihar	400	300
Uttar Pradesh	600	300
Total	2000	2000

VHF sets have not been allotted to villages in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa because such sets were installed there in the period before VI Plan. During the VI Plan there was, however, no other scheme to give central Financial Assistance to village Panchayats to enable them to purchase TV sets for community viewing.

It has also been decided in principle to provide, during the VII Plan period, 5000 community viewing TV sets (both VHF and Direct Reception) at selected villages in the States and Union Territories in the North-Eastern region, viz. Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. Further details of this scheme are yet to be finalised. State and Union Territory Governments have also been requested to provide community viewing TV sets at Panchayat level out of their own resources.

[Translation]

SHRI AMARSINGH RATHAWA : Sir, there are many people in rural panchayats and urban panchayats who cannot afford to buy a television set. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether government have any scheme under which a person could keep a television set through Panchayats if he so desires so that he could get valuable information through this medium?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Share of States for Rural Development Schemes

*389. **SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether economically backward States have not been able to take full advantage of centrally sponsored poverty amelioration schemes, like I.R.D.P. and N.R.E.P., for want of matching State resources ;

(b) if so, to what extent ; and

(c) whether Union Government propose to consider decreasing the State share in respect of these schemes for backwards States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) & (b) Most of the States have generally taken advantage of the Centrally sponsored poverty alleviation schemes like IRDP and NREP. The matching share of the States for these programmes was invariably taken into account while approving the State Plan outlays by the Planning Commission. The programmes, as a whole, did not suffer due to lack of matching resources.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government of India.

Preservation of Master Copy of Photo of Late Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

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

(a) whether Photo Division or the Photo Museum of his Ministry have preserved the master copy of the photo of late Dr B.R. Ambedkar while finally presenting the Constitution to the Constituent Assembly in his capacity as the Chairman of the Drafting Committee as well as the Law Minister, and later at the signing ceremony ;

(b) if so, whether copies of such photos are made available on special request for public purpose ; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) Photo Division and Photo Library of the Press Information Bureau do not have a copy of late Dr. B. R. Ambedkar while finally presenting the Constitution to the Constituent Assembly in his capacity as the Chairman of the Drafting Committee as well as the Law Minister and later at the signing ceremony.

(b) & (c) Does not arise.

World Bank Loan for Development of Agriculture

*395. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have approached the World Bank for loan for the development of agriculture in the country;

(b) if so, the amount of World Bank credit expected to be made available to NABARD-I credit project;

(c) the time by which the loan is expected to be obtained from the World Bank; and

(d) the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) The World Bank group assistance is received through projects in the various sectors but the assistance is not committed to any sector as such. The allocation between the various sectors and selection of various projects is on the basis of the Plan allocations, and proposals received and projects accepted by the Bank for funding within the overall figure of commitment indicated annually by the World Bank at the Consortium meeting.

(b) to (d) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Credit Project has been negotiated with the World Bank recently. Since the decision of International Bank for Reconstruction and Development has not become available, the exact amount or the terms and conditions on which the Government may get the assistance under the Project cannot be indicated at this stage.

Institutions /Organisations for R and D in Pisciculture and Fisheries

*397. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of centrally sponsored institutions/organisations undertaking research and developments in pisciculture and fisheries and their respective functions; and

(b) how the activities of these institutions organisations are co-ordinated ?