

(b) The provision of funds for housing including that for urban areas is made keeping in view the relative priorities of various sectors of development.

(c) and (d). Several building research laboratories/institutions are already engaged in evolving new technologies for building cost reduction. The National Buildings Organisation (NBO) is promoting the use of new techniques and materials for low cost housing.

Time Allotted for Regional Programmes

*202. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-
CHANDRAN :
SHRI T. BASHEER :

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

(a) whether Government propose to increase the time allotted for programmes in regional languages on Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details of the time proposed to be allotted and periodicity of broadcast of each regional language programme; and

(c) the time by which the proposal will come into effect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) :
(a) to (c). There is no time allocation as such for languages programmes.

All major Kendras in States where full fledged production facilities exist, originate programmes in Regional languages upto 8.40 PM except Madras which gives regional programme upto 9 P.M. They relay the National programmes from 8.40 PM onwards. It is the policy of the Government under the VII Plan to link all relay centres in major States with the main Kendras at the State capitals to facilitate relay of regional programmes upto 8.40 PM. At present, relay centres of Maharashtra have been linked with Bombay.

Expansion of Forest Area

*203. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are of the view that expansion of forest cover in areas which are presently under cultivation of wheat crop in a regulated manner would promote the cause of environment as also the crop and shall not create a shortfall in total availability of wheat crop to meet our requirements;

(b) whether any exercise has been made in this direction; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Programmes Telecast by Second Channel of Doordarshan

*204. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the programmes telecast by the country's second T.V. channel for two hours only are either left-overs, rejects or repeats;

(b) the reasons why no interesting serial comedy or documentary is telecast on the second channel;

(c) what efforts have been made to give the second channel an identity of its own and to make its programmes more entertaining; and

(d) whether the second channel is also proposed to be linked to the national network ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Generally, the serials which have not been telecast on the primary channels are telecast from the second channel of Doordarshan. The serials such as "HE MAN", "Century of Surgeons", "Parwaz Se Pahle", etc. were telecast for the first time on the second channel.