

Stations being constructed in the Islands. I was given an answer at these will be completed and commissioned in 1988-89. I want a categorical answer from the hon. Minister. They wanted us to construct the civil work in most of these places and the buildings have been completed. Whatever materials they wanted were given. We have also given the shipping transport facilities for transporting the installations materials. But they have not yet completed the installation work. I would like to know whether the time-schedule given to the hon. Prime Minister to commission these Satellite Earth Stations in Lakshadweep by 31-12-1988 will be strictly adhered to.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH: Sir, sometimes there may be some shortcomings but I will try my best to get this work completed within the scheduled time.

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR: The hon. Minister has mentioned about providing satellite facility to Andaman, Nicobar and other remote areas. I want to know whether feasibility to provide satellite facility in the border areas has also been examined.

SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH: These arrangements are made for both border areas as well as other places.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Dankuni Coal Complex

*247. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheduled fixed for dankuni Coal Complex are being extended

from time to time;

(b) whether the cost of the total project has been sharply increasing as a result thereof;

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(d) the steps being contemplated to complete the project immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) to (d). The Dankuni Coal Complex Project originally scheduled to be commissioned in March, 1985 is now expected to be commissioned early next year. The original cost estimate of the project was Rs 49.27 crores. The revised cost estimate assessed upto June, 1986 is about Rs. 118. crores. To ensure completion of the project by early next year, the following steps have been taken:-

- i) Close monitoring of the project at various levels;
- ii) Heavy Engineering Corporation, which is the turnkey contractor for the project, has strengthened its facilities for supervision of work at site.
- iii) multiple shifts have been introduced; and
- iv) manpower has been augmented.

Criteria for Films Shown on T.V.

*248. SHRI H.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of historical and relig-

ious feature films out of the total number of films shown on television during 1988 till date;

(b) whether Government have fixed any criteria in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details of the procedure being followed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF IN- FORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L.BHAGAT) : (a) The total num- ber of films telecast in the national network during 1988 (upto 20.1 1. 1988) is 123 in- cluding foreign feature films. However, it is not possible to strictly classify these films as historical, religious etc, as in many films these ingrediants are present in one form of the other.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Crisis in Tamil Film Industry

*251. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the serious crisis being faced by the Tamil Film Industry including video piracy; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to help the Tamil film industry to revive itself?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF IN- FORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). Re- ports have appeared in some sections of the Press about the alleged crisis faced by the Tamil film industry, According to these re- ports, the industry has presented a memo- randum to the Government of Tamil Nadu. The major demands included in the memo- randum are:

- tightening of laws relating to video films;
- Rs. 3 lakh grant/subsidy to all Tamil films;
- 50% tax exemption to small- budget Tamil films;
- 30% entertainment tax cut for films exhibited five years after the date of issue of the censor certificate and 50% cut for those exhibited after 10 years;
- five year moratorium on tax for newly constructed cinema halls;
- permission to charge 50 paise for A/C theatres and 25 paise for non-A/C theatres over and above the ticket rates;
- setting up of a film archives in the State
- reduction of tax on raw film from 14.3. per cent to 5 per cent
- declaration of film production and distribution as an industry;
- multi-fold increase in the royalty paid by Doordarshan to films and song and dance sequences etc.

Cinema, (excluding certification of films for public exhibition) is a State subject. Most of these demands are to be considered by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

The Government of India have been writing to all State Government/Union Terri- tory Administrations to tighten the admini- stration of the anti-piracy measures, and, provide such relief in entertainment tax as may be considered feasible. The rates for telecast of feature films for regional Doord-