

offered to supply video cassette recorders for its teletch project at a low cost of Rs. 6000/-

(b) whether Government are aware that this and the ET&T's claim that its colour television sets are sold for Rs. 6400/- have been challenged by video cassette recorder and colour television makers in the private sector; and

(c) if so, the correct position in regard to the pricing of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The recommended price of Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation (ET&T)'s Horizontal 51 cms CTV model is Rs. 6575/- excluding local taxes, and Rs. 7774/- excluding local taxes for Vertical model 51 cms CTV. Under their Material Technology Brand Name (MTB) programme, they have plans to launch a new design of 51 cms CTV early next year, the price of which is expected to be about Rs. 6400/- excluding local taxes and would be available at this price at ET&T's offices all over the country. Indian TV Manufacturer's Association (ITMA) in their Press Note dated 21st September, 88 have pointed out that the ET&T's announcement does not give any information whether the price is inclusive of Sales Tax, whether Guarantee is covered and whether after-sale service will be at the customers door steps etc. The above price of ET&T's TV sets include warranty for one year with free replacement of components during this period and after-sale service at their offices.

Helicopter Service to Pilgrim Centres

*155. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are large number of pilgrim centres in India;

(b) whether Government propose to link the various pilgrim centres in the country by helicopter services; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Apart from continuing its services to Vaishno Devi, Pawan Hans Ltd. may operate such services to other places subject to the same being feasible.

[Translation]

Communal riots

*156. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI: SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the States where communal riots occurred during the last three months;

(b) the main causes of those riots;

(c) the number of persons killed and the estimated loss of property during these riots;

(d) the details of assistance sought and provided by the Union Government to the affected States;

(e) the action plan, if any, to check the activities of communal elements; and

(f) the steps taken to implement it?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c). On the basis of the available information, there have been incidents of major communal violence in the following States during the last three months:-