

**SHRI KEDAR PANDAY:** We are not in a position to take it over just now.

**SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY:** So long as the comments from the State Governments do not come, the Central Government do not act. That means, so long as their comments do not come, the Central Government would not act and we shall continue to suffer floods. Is that the position of the Government of India?

**SHRI KEDAR PANDAY:** As I have said, we got the report of the Commission on the 21st March, 1980. We sent the report to the respective State Governments on the 19th April, 1980. We have sent reminders, and again we are going to send reminders. When the reactions of the State Governments come, then we shall be taking action.

#### **Suspected Sabotage at Imphal Station of A.I.R.**

\*24. **SHRI N. E. HORO:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Imphal Station of the All India Radio was off the air throughout the day on 2nd May, 1980 following suspected sabotage in the underground cable system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA):** (a) and (b). No, Sir. The station did not go off the air at all. Due to a fault in the P&T cable linking the studio with the transmitter (reportedly caused by the uprooting of an electric pole), the studio was not able to feed the regular programme to the transmitter on the morning of 2nd May, 1980. The station, therefore, commenced transmission with filler music which was lasted for about 15 minutes. Thereafter the regular programme which

rushed from the studio was put on the air from the emergency studio attached to the transmitter. The P&T cable was repaired on 5th May, 1980 and is in use since then.

**SHRI N. E. HORO:** Is it a fact that the fault in the cable was due to the uprooting of an electric pole and if so, is that not an act of sabotage?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VASANT SATHE):** No, Sir; it was not an act of sabotage. The fault in the P&T cable is reported to be due to uprooting of a nearby electric pole as a result of a truck colliding with it.

#### **Scheme for Introduction of Coloured Television**

\*26. **SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined a scheme for phased introduction of colour television in the country; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the technological aspect and financial implications of introducing colour television on a wider scale?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA):** (a) and (b). The feasibility of introduction of colour television in India in a phased manner is under study. Actual implementation will depend on the approval of the scheme by Government as well as availability of funds.

**SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:** This has been the routine reply of the Government. Can the Government give the information as to when it is going to implement it—the specific date?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VASANT SATHE): We have already set up a Committee to go into this entire question. This Working Group consists of representatives of the Department of Electronics, Door-darshan, Bharat Electronics Ltd., Planning Commission, Ministry of I. & B. and the Central Electronics and Engineering Research Institute, Pilani. The Working Group has been asked to give its report by the end of June, this month, 1980.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: We are glad to know that the report will be submitted by the end of June. When will it be implemented? Secondly, will colour television be introduced in Bangalore directly?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: As I have already said, the implementation of the report will depend upon the financial capacity, availability of funds, as well as the technical time-frame. Therefore, as soon as the report is available, both these factors will be considered, and if it is found feasible, we will go in for it because we recognise that colour TV is the technology of today.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You cannot give drinking water and you want to give something like colour TV to the people?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: The Minister has already made a public statement where he has shown his preference for the introduction of colour television. Personally I am also in favour of colour television coming to India because it is an advanced technology and we need it.

Does the Minister have any idea as to what will be the cost factor and what will be the cost of a colour television set compared to the present black and white so that we can assess what is going to be the price for this colour television in the market?

11.32 hrs.

[SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL in the Chair]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: We have some idea and according to modern technology the cost would be 20 per cent more compared to the black and white set.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Is it a fact that to bring in colour television it will require a minimum amount of Rs. 300 crores?

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Rs. 400 crores.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I have been told Rs. 300 crores.

Is it in the opinion of the Government an area which enjoys a very high priority over the other items which should be set aside and money for colour TV should be used in a country where 200 million people are suffering from drought and lack of drinking water? Will the Minister kindly tell us: is it a fact that it will involve a total outlay of Rs. 300 crores or not?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: No, Sir. It will not require Rs. 300 crores.

AN HON. MEMBER: Then how much?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: According to rough calculations, if all the nine centres where we have television today are to be converted into colour transmission, the maximum cost of all the nine centres would be approximately Rs. 34 crores.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: He said Rs. 300 crores in the Consultative Committee meeting.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: As regards priorities....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: On a point of order, Sir....

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** He does not even want to have the answer.

As regards priorities, the debate can be equally whether you want a bullock cart or a Boeing. That argument can always be advanced. If you compare water with television, this sort of thing can go on. It is ultimately for the House, for the Parliament and for the country to decide whether they want to go in for the latest technology or not. In the matter of technology you cannot afford to lag behind in this world. For his information, all countries, small or big, round about us, have already gone in for colour TV. China is going in for colour TV in a big way. You do not want India alone not to go in for colour technology? Sir, you do not get even black and white cameras outside as they have become obsolete.

The question is: does my friend want India alone to remain backward in the technology? If that is his intention and if the House accepts that proposal—Sir, it is for the House.... (Interruptions)

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Prof. Dandavate.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** I want to say that the same Minister in the Consultative Committee meeting had said that it would cost Rs. 300 crores ..... You said it.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** The Rs. 300 crores I had said in the Consultative Committee meeting was for the entire ten years if satellite was to be used for the entire villages having electricity in the country. That is for about two lakhs villages to be covered by the Satellite TV where we have already made a provision for transponders. So, don't show your ignorance like this.... (Interruptions)

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** I would like to know from the hon. Minister. Is it a fact that whenever any changes are introduced in technology or in any other sphere, it is really the question of priorities that is

more important—not that one is opposed aesthetically to colour technology or colour TV. The question is: in a developing country like India, the question of priority is more important and, therefore, from that point of view only, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it would be advisable for us to go in for colour technology at a time when we find that in thirty years of the Congress regime only 40,000.... (Interruptions) Why are they allergic to the word Congress?

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Dynastic Congress. (Interruptions).

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** Let it be understood that I will never be cowed down by any amount of shouting. I want to ask the hon. Minister.... (Interruptions) With your permission I am asking a question.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Please come to your question.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** When hon. Members are shouting, how can I ask my question?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister is following.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** He may follow. You kindly control the House. (Interruptions) You please keep quiet. I will not keep quiet even if hundreds of you shout. (Interruptions).

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Prof. Dandavate, your question is already answered.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** No. It is not answered. I have not completed my question.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Prof. Dandavate, in Question Hour, the scope is very limited. You put a pointed question and get a pointed answer.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** I always put pointed question. My pointed question is: in a country in which, in thirty years, we have been

able to provide drinking water facilities only to 40,000 villages. In terms of priority, is it advisable to go in for colour TV? (*Interruptions*) Will you not protect our interests? I want to ask a question from the hon. Minister. You are the presiding authority and you have to protect the interests of the hon. Members in asking a question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please ask your question.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: How can I ask the question if they are shouting?

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is no use quarrelling with the Chair. You ask your question.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: If hon. Members are shouting, how can I ask the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will request the hon. Members to keep quiet. When we ask a question in the House, it has to be pointed and the answer is not to be repetitive. Now, you are wanting to ask him whether this can be done at this stage. The hon. Minister has already answered that. (*Interruptions*) Let me provide you with the facility for asking question. Your question was whether it can be done at this stage.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You want to split the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am allowing the facility. (*Interruptions*).

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: It is too late in the day for you to learn the Parliamentary Procedure. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: How can the Questioner be disturbed?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is the hon. Minister interested in replying?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir..... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I have not completed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Let him complete his question. I will request you to ask a pointed question.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am asking him a pointed question. (*Interruptions*).

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, my pointed question is that in thirty-years if we are able to provide drinking water facilities only to 40,000 villages will our priority be for having colour technology in the field of television or we would like to divert those resources to facilities like drinking water?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, much of what the Congress government had done in 27 years was unfortunately undone in the last two and a half years.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, in two years we provided drinking water facilities to 46,000 villages whereas they provided it to 30,000 villages in thirty years.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, I am happy to inform Shri Dandavate that as far as priorities are concerned the comparison between drinking water and colour television is odious because the same comparison in terms of priorities can apply to everything that we do. Why do we have an air bus! Will you argue priorities?

11.44 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair].

I have already said funds permitting, we will do it. Colour television—I am not fascinated by the word 'colour'—the technology of today that is available and we will go in for it, otherwise we will be left behind and get obsolete. As such there will be no alternative but to go in for colour television. I have told you the cost. (*Interruptions*) Mr. Dandavate, you will have to listen to me fully. The previous government had provided Rs. 200 crores to be given

to private organisations for adult literacy. If that could be done, then I don't think why Rs. 34 crores cannot be provided for going in for the latest technology.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Speaker, Sir,.....

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I want to bring to your notice the fact that.... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, Are you on a supplementary?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I want to raise a point that during the Question Hour.... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: This is about the procedure followed during the Questions House. Sir, in your absence.....

MR. SPEAKER: No, please sit down.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Some members were asking questions. They were being hooted down. I would like to know....

MR. SPEAKER: I will tell you; please sit down. (Interruptions) Order please. I have called Shri Sanjay Gandhi.

SHRI SANJAY GANDHI: Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us this? The question has been asked about high priority and low priority. Would the money that was wasted by the Janata party in transporting Moshe Dayan in an IAF plane be utilised and converted for the implementation of colour television?

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: If there was any way of really calculating the loss and recovering it from the previous Government, then, I can assure you that at least two stations can be converted into colour television with that money.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN: I would like to know from the Minister about this.

It has been widely reported in the press that in the case of introduction of colour television. (Interruptions) I am repeating. I would like to know from the Minister about this. It has been widely reported in the Press that introduction of colour TV require the import of components for Rs. 1,000 crores. I would like to know from him whether this is a fact or not....

SHRI VASANT SATHE: It was contradicted in the same newspaper, in the same body, the headline was Rs. 1,000 crores and in the body it was given as Rs. 1,000.

श्रीमती प्रमिला बंडवले : श्रीमती अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय का कहना है कि कलर-टी.वी. के कन्वर्जन पर 34 करोड़ रु. लगेगा, जबकि श्री ज्योतिर्मय बंसु वा कहना है कि 300 करोड़ रु. लगेगा। मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहती हूँ कि हमारे देश में महंगाई की वजह से, किताबों की कीमतें बढ़ने की वजह से, आज बच्चों को पढ़ाई की सुविधायें नहीं मिल रही हैं, इसलिए क्या आप 34 करोड़ रु. कलर टी.वी. पर लगाने के बजाय ज्यादा से ज्यादा देहातों के बच्चों को टेलीविजन सैट देने पर विचार कर सकते हैं ?

MR. SPEAKER: It is a suggestion.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: It is a suggestion for action.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: What did you say—suggestion for action or inaction?

MR. SPEAKER: It is a suggestion. We go to the next question.

### Loss to Industries in U.P. due to Power Shortage

\*27. SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYYA: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Uttar Pradesh is suffering a colossal loss of Rs. 100 crores a month in industrial production because of acute power shortage obtaining for the past several months; and