

SHRI OM MEHTA: If those renoncants demand it, then we can consider.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I do not know how Indian citizens can be governed by foreign laws. (Interruptions).

SHRIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA: The hon. Member who asked the question now is from Pondicherry. His demand is equal to the demand of the people there.

SHRI OM MEHTA: Out of 71, 107 people, only 10,176 are renoncants. We will again try to assess, and if they demand, we shall see what can be done.

SHRI ARAVINDA BALAJANOR: I was not speaking for renoncants; I was speaking for the people who have not renounced. (Interruptions).

Small Newspapers in Gujarat and Newspaper Quota given to them

*574. **SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small newspapers in Gujarat, giving broad categories, published in Gujarati, Marathi, Hindi and English;

(b) whether the said newspapers are given any special quota of newsprint; and

(c) if so, broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA): (a) A statement is attached.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

LANGUAGE-WISE BREAK-UP OF NEWSPAPERS

Language	Daily	Bi/Tri-weekly	Weekly	Fort-nightly	Monthly	Quarterly	Other	Annual
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
English	1	..	3	3	15	5	9	1
Hindi	..	..	1	..	4	..	..	..
Gujarati	20	2	122	64	212	16	10	..
Marathi	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
Sanskrit	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Sindhi	..	..	1	2	4	..	..	..
Bilingual	..	1	3	3	8	1	4	..
Multilingual	..	..	6	1	3	3	..	..
TOTAL :	21	3	136	73	247	26	24	1

GRAND TOTAL : 531

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: May I know, what are the criteria by which the Government decides that a particular newspaper or a periodical is a small newspaper or a big newspaper? Is this on circulation, or infra-structure, capital invested etc? In reply to part (b) of the question, that is, whether the said newspapers are given any special quota of newsprint, he says, 'No, Sir'. Why?

SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA: The criterion of judging, whether a newspaper is a small paper, medium or big, is just circulation of the newspaper. The hon. Member has asked, why special quota of newsprint is not given to the small newspapers. According to the latest Supreme Court judgement. Sir, no special consideration can be shown to any category of newspaper, whether it is small or big, or whether it is in English or any other language.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: The Minister has said that the sole consideration is circulation. May I know, what is the limit, beyond which the paper ceases to be small and becomes medium and then again a big paper? From his own statement, the Minister will find that in Gujarat, there are 20 dailies, 2 bi-weeklies, 122 weeklies, 64 fortnightlies and 212 monthlies in Gujarati language. Is he aware of the fact that most of these small newspapers, monthlies, weeklies etc., are finding it very difficult to compete with big newspapers in regard to buying of newsprint? Will he ensure that these papers are able to survive by giving them supply of newsprint?

SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA: Newspapers with a circulation of 15,000 are considered to be small newspapers. The medium newspapers are those who have circulation up to 50,000 and beyond 50,000 are in big newspaper group. As the hon. Member himself has said, 212 monthlies are published in Gujarati apart from certain bi-weeklies, fortnightlies etc. They are welcome to apply for newsprint, if they fulfil the criteria laid down for this purpose.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Is it a fact that a large spate of yellow journals in the name of small newspapers and periodicals are coming up, and they exist for a short time? Are such categories of newspapers encouraged by giving them newsprint? They not only indulge in all sort of yellow journalism, but they indulge in black-market of newsprint? what is the precise action proposed by the Government?

SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA: Howsoever we may decry indecent writing and yellow journalism, according to the Supreme Court judgement, newsprint cannot be disallowed to any newspaper. So far as curbing and discouraging such writings and newspapers is concerned, it is the public taste and opinion, which would be more effective than any legal action which is in any case not possible.

मध्य प्रदेश के बड़े नगरों में टेलीविजन केंद्रों की स्थापना

* 575. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय :

क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि मध्य प्रदेश के प्रायः सभी बड़े नगरों में टेलीविजन केंद्र कब तक स्थापित कर दिए जायेंगे ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SIHA): There is no proposal to set up television centres in all the big cities of Madhya Pradesh. Steps are however, proposed to provide continuity of rural television service to that group of villages in Madhya Pradesh which will receive development oriented television programmes under the one year long Satellite Instructional Television Experiment during 1975-76. This will be done by locating a transmitter at Raipur during 1976-77 and another one at Bilaspur later, depending on the financial outlays made available.