

(c) if not whether Government propose to conduct a specific study in this connection ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI) : (a) to (c) The Central Electricity Authority has made an assessment of the hydro-electric power potential of the river waters in Bihar and identified 23 schemes with an aggregate hydro-electric potential of 538 MW at 60% load factor.

PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, will the hon. Minister be pleased to state how much power is being generated under the Kosi Hydro-Electric Project; whether this generation is according to the target fixed and if not, the action being taken by the Government to achieve the target ?

SHRI KALNATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the total potential of the Kosi Project is 20 MW and it should at least generate 15-16 million units in a year but it falls short by about 13 million units. This is because of silting and growth of vegetation in the rivers. With the result, full quantity of water is not available to run the machines. In order to deal with this problem, the Government of India had constituted a committee which submitted its report in August 1987. According to this Report, Rs. 28 lakh will be required to improve the working of this project. This plant is to be revitalised. A detailed report on the project is still awaited from the Bihar Government. This work is to be done by the State Government because this is not a Central Project.

PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, secondly, I want to know the progress made in the construction work of the proposed hydro-electric power project and the time by which this project is likely to be completed ?

SHRI KALPNATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Koyal Kora Project of 710 MW for Southern Bihar is under the consideration of the Central Government. A hydro-electric power project generally

takes 7-8 years to complete.

Pak programmes viewed in Delhi

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*268. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :
SHRIMATI MANORAMA
SINGH :

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

(a) whether Government have been able to identify the causes due to which transmission of Pakistani TV programmes to Delhi and other parts of the country is possible;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what measures are being taken to contain this intrusion and also to ensure effective transmission of the national and regional programmes to the people in the border areas ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) A statement is given below.

Statement

Some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab and Rajasthan close to the international border receive TV signals from Pakistan because of their proximity to the transmitting stations operating across the border. However, freak signals through abnormal propagation of electro-magnetic waves caused occasionally by peculiar weather conditions are some times received at far off places. The phenomenon is not unique to Pakistan signals alone.

Priority has been assigned to the expansion of TV service in the border areas of the country. A number of schemes have been included in VII Plan of Doordarshan for strengthening of TV service of the border areas of the country. On implementation of the schemes, TV service is expected to be available to about 86% population in the border districts of the country, as against the National average

82.8% sought to be achieved on the implementation of the various schemes of the VII Plan.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the coverage of Pakistani Television is so wide that its programmes can clearly be seen in the border areas of States like Punjab, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh. Their programmes are not cultural but are full of propaganda material. The programmes of Pakistani Television are so interesting that the people of border areas in States like Punjab, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh prefer to watch their programmes. May I know the action being taken to make our programmes more interesting so that the people do not see their programmes ; have the Government constituted any committee for implementation of programmes ; and if so, the decision taken by this committee in this regard ? Programmes should be made more interesting so that the people prefer to view our programmes and do not see their programmes.

[*English*]

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : Sir, the Government knows that some districts in the border areas are within the range of the signals of TV and Radio of Pakistan. As you are aware, the signals do not respect international boundaries. For instance, from Pakistan, areas of western Gujarat, Jammu, from Nepal, some areas in eastern India and Uttar Pradesh and from Bangladesh some parts of West Bengal get TV signals because these districts are within the primary transmission zone of TV transmitter located in Pakistan.

There are also other areas, which are within what is known as 'secondary range', where we get feeble signals.

Sir, Government of India has embarked on a very ambitious programme with an outlay of Rs. 110 crores to strengthen the TV coverage and the transmission network in our border areas.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : What is the result ?

MR. SPEAKER : It has to be more interesting, Sir. This can improve.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : I do not want to go into the details. This includes the north-eastern expansion plan in all the border areas. I have got district level position. The transmitters are under installation. Also, an additional programme has just been initiated to improve the transmission in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir.

When these programmes of expansion are fully implemented, the border areas of our country will get 86 per cent coverage of our population as against the average of 82 per cent for the whole of our country.

While it is true that Pakistan transmissions are available to some of our people in the border districts, it is equally true that Indian transmissions are available in many of the districts, even as far away as Chittagong in Bangladesh or Islamabad and other major centres of Pakistan. It is not correct to say that Pakistani programmes are better than ours. It is a matter of opinion. Here, we have received a large number of letters from Pakistan commending the quality of our programmes. We have also received letters from our Ambassador saying that our programmes are received very well and appreciated in some of the areas of Pakistan. And people even put up high antennae so that Indian programmes can be received. The improvement of the programmes not only from the border districts but the entire country is an ongoing and continuing process but as far as the border districts are concerned, we are improving the studio facilities, improving the staff and we are seeing that creative programmes are being prepared especially for border transmission in all the transmission centres with studio facilities in these border districts.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH : Has any Programme Advisory Committee

been constituted to take care of that area? Has Doordarshan any plan under its consideration to make such programmes for military personnel in future as are being made by the All India Radio ?

[English]

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : Every transmission centre which originates programmes in the country has a Programme Advisory Committee and the border transmission kendras also have Programme Advisory Committees. As I mentioned to the hon. Member, we are giving special attention to improve all the programmes which reach across our borders into Pakistan.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : The telecast of late night films is nuisance to the society. Will the hon. Minister consider stopping it ?

SOME HON. MEMBERS : We do not agree. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : He must have seen this. Otherwise, how does he know ? Next question. Shri Shankar Rao Chavan.

Site selection committee for large thermal power stations

*269 **SHRI ASHOK SHANKAR-RAO CHAVAN :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the composition and terms of reference of the Committee appointed by Government recently in regard to the selection of sites for setting up large thermal power stations ;

(b) the work done so far by the Committee including the sites visited ; and

(c) whether the Committee expects to submit its report before the stipulated time of March, 1989 and if not, the time by which its report is likely to be received by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI) : (a) to (c) A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) The composition and term of reference of the Committee constituted by the Government in regard to the selection of sites for large thermal power stations are given in the Annexure.

(b) The Committee has reviewed the status of development of the sites recommended by the earlier Committee for selection of sites for large thermal power stations in April, 1976 and the feasibility of further extension at these sites. It has not visited any site so far.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Annexure

Committee for selection of sites for large thermal power stations

A. Composition

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| 1. Member (Thermal), CEA | Chairman |
| 2. A representative of the SEB in the jurisdiction of which a suitable site is located and being investigated. | Member |
| 3. A representative of the Deptt. of Coal. | Member |
| 4. A representative of M/s CMPDIL. | Member |
| 5. A representative of M/s NTPC | Member |