

TIONS (SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH): Sir, the main lines in the Jammu town of Jammu will be linked with Jammu Tawi. The main lines of Himachal Pradesh will be linked with Simla.

[English]

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: What is the definition of main? Does it mean that all the district headquarters will be covered and linked up with Shimla and Jammu respectively or does it have another categorisation? If so, on what dates?

[Translation]

SHRIBIRBAHADURSINGH: The major district headquarters and the big towns or centres where the number of telegrams is more when linked to these towns are called 'main'.

[English]

### TV Transmitters in Andhra Pradesh

\*808 SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power of some low power TV transmitters in Andhra Pradesh is proposed to be increased during the remaining period of the Seventh Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount allocated for the purpose and the amount spent so far?

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

### STATEMENT

As part of the Seventh Plan of Doordarshan, schemes for the replacement of the low power (100W) TV transmitters functioning at Anantapur and Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh by high power (10 KW) transmitters are under implementation. Details of the estimated capital cost on the setting up of these projects and the expenditure incurred till March 1989 are given below:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

<i>Project</i>	<i>Capital cost</i>	<i>Expenditure incurred</i>
High Power Transmitter, Anantapur	254.00	97.55
High Power Transmitter, Tirupati	260.00	78.46

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: In the whole of the 7th Plan only two stations—Anantapur and Tirupati—have been taken up for replacement by high power transmitters. I would like to know the number of low power transmitters set up in Andhra Pradesh and why in the whole of the 7th Plan only these two stations have been taken up. I would also like to know whether there is any discrimination against the Andhra Pradesh Government in this respect.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Andhra

Pradesh already has 16 low power transmitters and we have inaugurated the 17th low power transmitter only the day before yesterday at Adilabad. The replacement of Low Power Transmitters with High Power Transmitters is a planned and graduated process and in the Seventh Five Year Plan, as has been replied in the main answer, two Low Power Transmitters are being replaced by High Power Transmitters in Andhra Pradesh. I would also like to mention that Andhra Pradesh is one of the two States in the country, which have been given the benefit

of total coverage by regional transmission in the regional language, viz. Telugu. The only other State in the country which has the facility of total regional transmission is Maharashtra. The coverage of Andhra Pradesh will increase to 69% at the end of Seventh Plan and if you compare it with various other States, you will see that Andhra Pradesh has been given more than its due in the matter of television infra-structure in the country.

**SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY:** In Anantapur District of Andhra Pradesh, there is a lot of demand for T.V.; and people are using Dish-Antenna and it costs two thousand or three thousand rupees for the T.V. serial-viewers. I would like to know from the Minister when this High Power Transmitter in Anantapur is scheduled to be completed. Will it be completed within schedule, because only less than 40% of the allotted amount has been spent? Will the amount be spent according to schedule and will this High Power Transmission Station be opened within the period?

**SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:** The main point is that the lead time for the implementation of the High Power Transmission is two or three years. The Anantha pur HPT is under implementation. This will be completed in the beginning stages of the Eighth Plan.

**SHRI H.A. DORA:** Srikakulam in Andhra Pradesh is a backward District; 95% of the people there belong to the backward community. Recently the Minister has announced that a T.V. Transmitter would be installed in Srikakulam District. May I know from the hon. Minister as to when it would be installed and where it would be installed?

Has the Minister taken any steps to instal any transmitter in Srikakulam District? What are the steps that are being taken by the Government?

**SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:** In Srikakulam District, a Low Power Transmitter

will be installed during the Seventh Plan period itself. I would like to correct the earlier figure which I had given. At the end of the Seventh Plan, the coverage of Andhra Pradesh will go up to 77%. The 69% figure relates to the rural areas of Andhra Pradesh.

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):** I would like to give some additional information. The Government has a plan for sanctioning another 100 Low Power Transmitters—it is under the process of sanctioning—when it is sanctioned, we are considering to give 7 LPT out of 100, to Andhra Pradesh. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI H.A. DORA:** Sir, he has not answered my question.

**SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:** We have told you that it will be completed within the next six to eight months, i.e. within the end of the Seventh Plan.

**SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT:** Earlier than that, I will show you.

[*Translation*]

**SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated just now that the range of all the low power T.V. transmitters set up in the country is 20-25 kilometres. It means that the programme telecast by them can be viewed only in areas within this range, but my experience is just the other way round. There are two low-power transmitters in my constituency, but the programmes telecast by them can be viewed only up to a distance of 5 to 7 kilometres and not beyond that. Even within the town, the reception of the telecast is not clear. Keeping this situation in view, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether any action is being taken to bring improvement in the low power transmitters and to remove defects in it? Does the Government propose to convert such defective low-power transmitters into high-power transmitters?

[*English*]

**SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:** The reach of the low power transmitter on an average is 25 km but in certain situations due to the topography of the area it is quite possible that the reach may be less. At the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan our programme is to cover all the district head-quarters of the country. Recently we made an analysis on the basis of parliamentary constituencies. At the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan we will be covering either wholly or partially all parliamentary constituencies except five. These five also we are trying to see whether they can also be covered during the Seventh Plan itself. Our strategy is to progressively cover the uncovered areas during the beginning stages of the Eighth Plan.

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):** I will get the transmitter mentioned by the lady Member checked up and get the defects rectified, if any. Normally it should cover 25 km but there is problem in respect of hilly areas.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** According to our information in many places where you are having low power stations they are giving lot of problems. People do not get reception from other transmitters also. In my constituency there is the same problem.

**SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT:** We have received complaints from some places regarding reception of signals from transmitter to transmitter. We are looking into these complaints. By and large the system is working well. There are some problems to which we are attending to.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** There are lot of complaints in respect of Dharampuri.

**SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT:** We shall attend to them and try to rectify the same.

**PROF. N.G. RANGA:** Is there any transmitter at Behrampur which is the headquar-

ters of Ganjam district? It is well-known that Srikakulam and Ganjam districts have bilingual population speaking both Oriya and Telugu. I would like to know whether there is any transmitter at Behrampur to serve these two language people.

**SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:** The low power transmitter already exists in the district of Behrampur in Orissa. The language programme of particular States is prepared at the State headquarters Kendra. Basically it is Oriya but depending on the minority composition of each State the Doordarshan Kendra also produces minority language programmes. The hon. Senior Member's suggestion will definitely be looked into. We have a scheme to increase the time for minority programmes.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to thank the hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting for having stated just now that the Government is going to install another 100 Low Power Transmitters. Now, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the population norms should be changed and brought below 50,000 so that the rural areas may also be covered. Will the Government be kind enough to take a decision in this regard?

**SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I have stated that 100 Low Power Transmitters have not been cleared so far. However, clearance is likely to be given very soon. I expect that these transmitters will be installed in tribal areas and in border areas. These transmitters are to be installed in remote areas to benefit the people more. Initially, the plan was that by and large these transmitters will be installed in towns with a population of one lakh and under which border areas, Tribal areas and distant areas may also be covered. Such things are kept in mind. The 100 transmitters have not been sanctioned so far but we are making efforts in this direction so that we may be able to install the maximum number of trans-

mitters during the Seventh Plan Period

[English]

**SHRIV. KISHORE CHANDRAS. DEO:** While the Minister was answering, first of all he said that 77 per cent of Andhra Pradesh is already covered by television network. Secondly, a survey was conducted based on Parliamentary constituencies. Thirdly, he said that they are trying to see that every District Headquarters is covered by television. What I would like to know is that my constituency is a very backward one because it is a reserved constituency. Apart from that Prof. Ranga, regarding the language problem, even with regard to Telugu language, there is no area in my constituency, which is a tribal one, which can get the television programmes. As far as the constituencies are concerned, I do not know the basis because no part of my constituency can get the television. Secondly, it is a tribal constituency. You said that the quota for Andhra Pradesh was over. 77 per cent has been covered. Does it mean that since 77 per cent has been covered and since Andhra Pradesh has got more than its quota and since you want this to be confined only to the urban district headquarters, these backward and tribal areas will remain without television? Have you got any other programme for this? What are your intentions vis-a-vis these backward regions where there are topographical problems also as you yourself have mentioned?

**SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT:** I do not know as far as this particular constituency is concerned. But I will answer the question. He is welcome...

**SHRIV. KISHORE CHANDRAS. DEO:** Sir, it covers two constituencies, namely, Vijayanagaram and Srikakulam. It covers the tribal areas of both the districts.

**SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT:** As I have already submitted for the consideration of the hon. Member, the purpose of further expansion of the television service and one of the major considerations is to take it to the tribal areas, border areas, hilly areas and the

inaccessible areas, etc. Now, regarding this particular district which he has mentioned, he is very welcome today itself to discuss it with me. I assure him of a very sympathetic consideration. Let me make it clear that the idea is to not only choose the district centres with a large population but also to cover the percentage of population. He has mentioned certain figures about Andhra Pradesh. As I have said, we are thinking for seven more centres for Andhra Pradesh. The whole purpose of this expansion programme is to expand television all over the country and to cut across all parties, sections, Zila Parishads, municipal bodies, etc. All MPs and MLAs belonging to all sections are emphasising and pressing for it as you are doing now. That is why, we are trying to get 100 additional centres sanctioned. TV requirement is a must in this vast country. They will continue to ask for more and more and we have to give more and more subject to the availability of resources, equipments, trained personnel and so on. We have made these transmitters in our country, by our own public undertakings but some parts have been imported. Our TV expansion has been hailed by world experts as the largest TV audience in the shortest possible time. I assure the hon. Member that we are doing our best and we are focussing on the tribal areas.

**SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY:** There is no doubt that Behrampur is a bilingual district. But equally, Vishakapatnam, Vijayanagaram and Srikakulam are also bilingual districts. I would like to know whether all the languages will be adopted in the bilingual districts or any other language will be telecast for the minority communities. Oriyas are in minority in Andhra Pradesh. I want to know whether the telecast will be made in Oriya for the minority community.

**SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT:** At this stage, it will not be possible for me to say about the particular regional stations and what particular minority languages are covered. Broadly, we have dominant language programme and other programmes also. The idea is to satisfy everybody. But ultimately, the telecast time in the regional stations is also

limited. They have those limitations. Keeping those limitations in view they have to frame their programmes. We do want that apart from the dominant language of the particular State there should be some programme in other languages also. This is the problem not only with one State but this is the problem in almost every State of this country. In every State, in every village there are people who speak more than one language. Our intention is, subject to the availability of equipment, resources and personnel, to increase the regional transmission so that we can satisfy some linguistic group to some extent. But I cannot at this time say on which particular station which linguistic language is being telecast. We are for the development of all the languages. It is a time consuming process. Finally, in the shape of things, it takes a long time to develop in that way.

#### Losses in DESU

\*810. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the losses incurred by the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90; and

(b) the steps taken so far to check the losses and the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI):

(a) According to the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking losses are as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Losses (Rs. in crores)</i>
1987-88 (Prov.)	208.73
1988-89 (Prov.)	201.80
1989-90 (Estimated)	238.98

(b) DESU have initiated action to bring about improvement in their operation by better inventory control, reduction in operational costs, reduction of T&D losses, spe-

cial drive to check theft of power, better capacity utilisation, recovery of outstanding dues and improvement in public relations.

DR. A.K. PATEL: Sir, According to the reply of the Hon. Minister during the first three years the loss is more than Rs. 700 crores. As I know, I have got information with me, it is even more than Rs. 1000 crores. DESU has totally become bankrupt. The World Bank has refused to pay any loan to DESU. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether attention has been drawn to the following allegations against the General Manager by the DESU Engineer's Association. The first allegation is...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Why are you mentioning about the allegations?

DR. A.K. PATEL: Sir because it has suffered losses. These losses are due to the corruption and that is why I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the allegations made by the Engineers' Association of DESU.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You call it a Performance Report.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are you putting question or making a Statement here?

DR. A.K. PATEL: I want to know from the Hon. Minister what steps is he going to take to bring down the corruption and in turn the great losses of DESU, and particularly to see the corruption of the General Manager and other officers.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, DESU is in loss because the tariff in Delhi is the lowest in India. The cost of fuel and the cost of coal is increasing but we have not increased tariff. Power theft was there in Delhi. When this gentleman came there was a big drive to check it and about 350 persons were arrested. Many persons who were running the cold storage were put behind the bars. In the last five years, this year the highest recovery...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please or-