

(b) if so, what are they and with what result, so far;

(c) whether Government have taken a final decision to locate the T.V. Station at Ahmedabad instead of at Gandhinagar in Gujarat;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) when are the above-mentioned three new T.V. stations likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b). Sites for the TV stations at Trivandrum and Bangalore have been selected finally and the State Governments have been approached for transfer of these sites to Doordarshan. A site for the TV station at Ahmedabad has also been selected and clearance for locating the TV studio and transmitter at this site has been sought from the concerned authorities.

(c) and (d). It is proposed to locate the TV station at Ahmedabad as Gandhinagar is not considered suitable.

(e) The three TV stations are likely to start functioning in the last year of the Sixth Plan (1982-83).

Setting up of more T.V. Relay Centres in U.P.

*30. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering setting up of some more T.V. relay centres in Uttar Pradesh; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the places where and the period within which these centres are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b). It is proposed to set up a TV relay centre at Varanasi during the current Plan

period (1978-83). This relay centre will be equipped with a 10 KW transmitter and a 150 metre tower which will provide coverage to an area of 18,000 sq. km. and a population of 72.4 lakhs. It will relay the programmes of the TV centre at Lucknow.

Establishment of T.V. Relay Station for Goa

*37. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to establish a T.V. relay station for Goa;

(b) if so, when will it be established; and

(c) steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) to (c). It is proposed to set up a TV Relay transmitter at Panaji during the current plan period (1978-83). A site has been selected for the purpose at Altinho hill. The State Government has been approached for acquisition and transfer of this land to Doordarshan.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hope I can say this on behalf of the people of Gujarat and particularly the people of Ahmedabad that we are happy that the TV Centre is after all going to be set up in Gujarat, that is, in Ahmedabad.

May I know whether like Bangalore and Trivandrum, the site at Ahmedabad has been finally 'selected'?

I say this because, in respect of Bangalore and Trivandrum, it has been said that the site has been 'finally selected' whereas in the case of Ahmedabad, it is stated that it is 'selected'. So, I want to know whether it is 'finally selected'. I would

like to know about the actual location, and when that site will actually be transferred to Doordarshan.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: There is no need to read any difference between the words 'finally selected' and the word 'selected'.

The selection is final so far as we are concerned. But, I am sure, the hon. Member would appreciate that where it is a private site, the acquisition proceedings etc. have to be gone through and we cannot completely finalise them today itself. That is the position. But I do not think that there would be any difficulty so far as this matter is concerned. We have selected the place near Thaltej area in Ahmedabad. Actual clearance would be got from the Standing Advisory Committee for Frequency Allocations, which includes the representatives of the Ministry of Communications, Civil Aviation and all that. And informally we understand that there would be no difficulty in this matter.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: With reference to the latter part of the answer given to my first supplementary, I only hope that the processes and procedures which he has mentioned will not act as further obstacles to delay the process of the setting up of a TV Station in Ahmedabad. In answer to part (c) of the question he has said this:

The three TV stations are likely to start functioning in the last year of the Sixth Plan (1982-83).'

Therefore, my question is this. The last year of the Sixth Plan is 1982-83. But why should there be such a delay? I say this because, Mr. Speaker, kindly see this. We are at present in 1979-80. There are three more years to go to reach 1982-83. That means, a delay of 4 years, by which time all of us may not be in this Parliament as there will be elections in 1982. My plea is that the Janta Gov-

ernment should make this a concrete reality before their term is over. Sir, I am assuming that the present Janata Government, in spite of the No-confidence Motion or otherwise, will continue in tact in power upto 1982 and hence this question. My last point is this. The Minister's assurance is tagged on with plan projects. Therefore this question arises now. He says 'Last year of the Plan period.' Supposing for any reason the plan targets and projects are delayed, what would that mean? Would that mean that automatically the setting up of the TV Station will also get further delayed?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: Sir, I am sure that the hon. Member himself knows all the answers to these questions. When a certain schedule is projected, it is done on the basis of past experience. On the basis of past experience in regard to setting up of T.V. stations, the average time taken is approximately about 36 to 42 months from the date of acquisition of the site and all that.

An **HON. MEMBER:** Why don't you invoke emergency provisions?

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: You should improve upon the past experience.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: I would like to expedite the whole process and to improve upon it. But the answer that I have given is on the basis of a realistic appraisal taking cognisance of all the factors

श्री राजेश कुमार शर्मा : उत्तर प्रदेश के विज्ञान क्षेत्र और जनसंख्या को देखते हुए अब तक वहाँ पर केवल सखनक में टी वी सेंटर की स्थापना की गई है। इसके प्रतिरिक्त मधुपुरी में एक टी वी रिमो केंद्र की स्थापना की गई है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने उत्तर में कहा है कि प्राणमी पांच बरौ में बाराणसी में एक रिमो सेंटर स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव है। बरेली क्षेत्र के संसद सचिव और वहा की जनता के द्वारा एक बहुत बड़ी मांग की जा रही है कि बरेली में भी एक रिमो केंद्र की स्थापना की जाए। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या बरेली में भी रिमो केंद्र स्थापित

करने पर विचार करेंगे और जो वाराणसी में केंद्र स्थापित होने वाला है वह कब तक स्थापित ही जाएगा।

श्री लाल कृष्ण झाड़वाणी : उत्तर प्रदेश एक बहुत बड़ा प्रदेश है और उसकी जनसंख्या भी अधिक है। इस कारण से उसकी अपेक्षाएं भी अधिक हैं। यह बात सही है। किन्तु माननीय सदस्य को इस बात की जानकारी होगी कि देश में ऐसे भी प्रदेश हैं जहां पर एक भी टी वी सेंटर नहीं है। इन सब बातों को ध्यान में रख कर ही लखनऊ में टी वी सेंटर और मसूरी में रिमोट सेंटर को स्थापना की गयी है। मुझे विश्वास है कि ये सेंटर्स पर्याप्त मात्रा में वहां की जनता की सेवा कर सकेंगे। वाराणसी में छठी योजना में जो केंद्र स्थापित होने वाला है, मुझे उम्मीद है कि वह भी छठी योजना के अन्तिम वर्ष से पहले ही अपना काम पूरा कर लेगा।

श्री राजेंद्र कुमार शर्मा : मैंने पहले ही प्रश्न में पूछा था कि क्या बरेली में भी टी वी रिमोट सेंटर की स्थापना करने का कोई विचार है या नहीं ?

श्री लाल कृष्ण झाड़वाणी : बरेली में केंद्र स्थापित करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, the reply says: "It is proposed to set up a TV Relay transmitter at Panaji during the current Plan period (1973—83)" May I know, through you, from the hon. Minister—as this is going to be a Relay TV Station—from which Station it is going to relay the programmes? I would like to know also this information as to when the State Government was approached for acquisition and transfer of necessary land for this purpose.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: This relay centre at Panaji will be relaying programmes put out from the Bombay TV Centre. It is only recently that the site has been selected and the State Government has been approached. I do not have with me the date as to when the State Government has been approached. If notice is given, I will collect the information and give the same.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very good that the Minister is having so many stations and expanding TV network in the

country. But then TV is a double-edged weapon. It is a powerful medium of education. Then it is also said that it is an idiot box. While it has been viewed, the brain completely stops and it absorbs entirely whatever the TV gives. I would like to know in this context that since these stations which are proposed are to go to a large extent to the rural areas, what is the rural bias that the Government have in mind in respect of these stations? Apart from merely having entertainment, it will not serve any purpose. I would like to know whether they are also going to have programmes of interest to the rural people regarding health, agriculture, sanitation and so on. Will the hon. Minister give some indications on these lines?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: I appreciate the points raised and in fact this has been very much in our mind. The experience of other countries, particularly of Western countries, should be something from which we could profit and make television really an instrument not only of entertainment but also of education and rural extension. The hon. Member may be aware that several TV centres are keyed only to rural biased programmes.

SHRI B. RACHAIAH: Every time the hon. Minister, whenever he visits Bangalore, gives an assurance to the public that Bangalore will have TV centre soon. But from today's reply I am taken aback and I do not know why there is so much of delay in the installation of a TV Centre at Bangalore. He has already mentioned that a site has been selected and the State Government has given the land. Now, I would like to know whether the Minister is going to implement the assurance that he gives every time when he visits Bangalore.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: I am as keen as the hon. Member is to see that the Bangalore TV station starts relaying programmes at the earliest, but on the basis of experience that we have

had till now, I have indicated the time taken to complete the various formalities to acquire the transmitters etc.

SHRI B. P. MANDAL: I would like to know from the hon Minister the policy which the Government is following. Why is it that whereas in several States, the State capitals have not been provided with TV centres, in some other States, more than one TV Centre or relay station have been provided? Secondly, when a TV station is provided in a State, why is it provided in some other place instead of the State capital, for instance in Bihar instead of having it at Patna, it has been put up at Muzaffarpur?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: There are two aspects of the question. I may mention that we had contemplated that during the 6th Plan, we should be able to set up TV centres in all the State capitals but constraints of resources made this impossible. The Planning Commission suggested that we confine ourselves to three Stations only in State capitals. Therefore, we selected one each in Trivandrum, Bangalore and Ahmedabad.

The second question is: why even though there is no station at the State capital, a station has been put up at some other place like Muzaffarpur or Raipur. This is because as part of the SITE continuity scheme, sites were selected which were intended to serve rural areas only, not the urban areas and my own feeling is that where a place like Jaipur has been selected for a site continuity programme, the choice has not been good. The stations at Muzaffarpur, Sambalpur or Raipur are all intended to serve mainly the rural areas because the programmes are rural biased.

I may mention further that decisions about these locations were not taken by this Government but by the earlier Government.

PROF. R. K. AMIN: After the TV station is established at Ahmedabad

or Gandhinagar, will you kindly see that by establishing relay stations, the entire Gujarat is covered by the programmes?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: That can only be a subsequent programme of expansion. The present programme that I have indicated is under the 6th Plan and Ahmedabad is the only place where we propose to have a full-fledged TV station.

SHRI HITENDRA DESAI: What will be the coverage of area from Ahmedabad Station?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: This TV centre will be able to serve an area of 18,000 sq. kms and a population of 48.3 lakhs. The number of villages that would be served apart from the Ahmedabad city would be 1,818.... (Interruptions).

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: The P&T Department is putting up between different stations various networks of microwave, for instance from Madras to Ernakulam is the hon. Minister aware that where the network is there, where the big pilot schemes are there, a small mechanical device added to it would enable them to get the TV programme from the major centre? Will the Minister have this examined—because, for example, from the Madras-Ernakulam network, you will be able to provide TV services to a very large section, i.e. from the tower that is coming up in Tiruppattur, in Salem and in Coimbatore? I would like to know whether the Minister will take this very seriously, have it examined and see that the rural areas in those parts get the benefit of TV, while we wait and wait for the relay stations many years later.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: I am aware of the possibilities of a link-up on the basis of the micro-links provided by the tele-communication system; but there too, if TV is to serve as a medium of extension and educa-

tion, it will not be desirable to televise programmes from a long distance, and in languages which are not understood.....(Interruptions). Even after that, the setting up of a transmitter costs. It may not cost as much as a full-fledged TV centre; but it does cost. Even a relay centre, based on the linkages provided by the micro-wave link of the telecommunication system costs. At the moment, constraints on the resources do not make it possible for us to expand the TV network far more than what we have envisaged.

श्री छवि राम शर्मा : मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि सभी मंत्री जी ने बताया कि छोटी योजना में राज्यों की राजधानियों में टेलीविजन केंद्र स्थापित करेंगे, तो क्या जो बिल्कुल राज्य हैं जहाँ हरिजन, आदिवासी रहते हैं ऐसे राज्यों में धोर बास कर मध्य प्रदेश में खालियर में जहाँ से प्रस्ताव भी भेजा है वहाँ पर टी० वी० केंद्र की स्थापना को प्राथमिकता देने ?

श्री लाल कृष्ण श्रावभाषी : खालियर के लिए इस समय कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

श्री छवि राम शर्मा : भोपाल के बारे में क्या है ?

श्री लाल कृष्ण श्रावभाषी : भोपाल के लिए भी मैंने पहले बताया हमारी इच्छा थी कि हम कर सकें। लेकिन योजना प्रायोग के साथ बहुत करने के बाद इस निष्कर्ष पर पहुंचे कि केवल नई तीन राजधानियों की जा सकेंगी और उनमें द्विचक्र मंत्रालय और महामाया के बारे में निर्णय किया गया था।

काबर एम्पली मूरम् : सरकार की यह जो योजना है यह ट्राइबल प्रोविडेंट नहीं है, हमारे हिन्दुस्तान के आदिवासी क्षेत्रों के लिए आर्थो-मिजुसल भीषिया अधिक लाभदायक है बनिस्वत खेदियों के। इसलिए मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि आदिवासी क्षेत्रों के लिए टी० वी० सेंटर बनाने की योजना है, या केवल शहरों में ही जोलेंगे ?

श्री लाल कृष्ण श्रावभाषी : इन पहलुओं को भी विचार में रखा जाएगा जब इसके ऐक्स्पेंशन की स्कीम होगी।

Promotion of Defence Personnel

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*26. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:

DR. P. V. PERIASAMY:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have framed any scheme for the promotion of defence personnel; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND SPACE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) and (b). The Government have taken the following decisions to improve the career prospects of Defence personnel and also to reduce congestion in certain ranks.

(i) One out of every five jawans in the Army will be given the honorary rank of Naik in the last year of his service.

(ii) It has been decided to substantially improve the promotion prospects of Naib Subedars to Subedars.

(iii) Promotional avenues will be significantly expanded for experienced and promising jawans, sailors and airmen to rise from the level of a jawan, NCO or JCO and equivalent ranks in the other services to the rank of a commissioned officer of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force.

(iv) Further improvements are being made in the existing avenues and quantum for promotion from one level to another in the category of jawans, airmen and sailors.

(v) With a view to deal with the problem of stagnation which has surfaced at the levels of Majors in the Army and Sq. Leaders in the Air Force, over 1200 posts of Majors and Sq. Leaders are being upgraded to the rank of Lt. Cols. and Wing-Commanders.