

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Electra Van can cruise at a speed of 40 Kms/hour and its cost of operation is 85 paise per k.m.

(c) At present 146 vehicles are running successfully and Govt. is giving cash subsidy of Rs. 1 lakh per vehicle to promote the sale of these vehicles.

External Services Division for Broadcast of Telugu Programmes

2032. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any external services division in AIR for broadcasting Telugu programmes;

(b) if so, the names of the countries to which the said programme circuit is provided at present;

(c) whether there is any request for Telugu External service circuit from other countries; and

(d) if so, the names of such countries and the action proposed to provide the said circuits?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Telugu programmes are broadcast by the external services division of All India Radio.

(b) Telugu service covers East and South East Asia regions, which include Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Kumpuchia, Laos, Hong Kong and Burma.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Subsidised Rice Under ITDP

2033. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the date from which the scheme of subsidised rice under Integrated Tribal Development Project was introduced in the country;

(b) the date from which this scheme was introduced in Karbi Anglong and N.C. Hills districts in Assam;

(c) whether the Government to propose to compensate the delay, if any in the introduction of the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The scheme for supply of wheat and rice at specially subsidised prices to the inhabitants of ITDP areas and the tribal majority States was announced in November, 1985 and implemented from December, 1985.

(b) The ITDP Scheme was extended to the Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills districts of Assam in April, 1990.

(c) and (d) The proposal to include aforesaid districts in the ITDP Scheme was approved by the Government on 29-3-1990. Since the scheme was extended to these areas the question of any compensation does not arise.

A.I.R. Station at Diphu

2034. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the stage of construction and commissioning of the All India Radio station at Diphu (Assam);

(b) whether the construction and commissioning of the said radio station has been delayed;