

on the occasion of elections to Legislative Assemblies and the Delhi Metropolitan Council.

- (vi) Presentation of divergent viewpoints in AIR programmes by political personalities, journalists, academicians and other intellectuals, etc.

(b) and (c). The Government is proposing to set-up a Group of officials and non-officials to prepare a Working Paper for suggesting recommendations on the grant of autonomy to Akashvani and Doordarshan. The related matters can be decided only after the report of the proposed Group is received by the Government.

‘समाचार’ के कार्यक्रम की जांच करने के लिये समिति की नियुक्ति

413. श्री श्रीधरलाल शर्मा सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने हाल ही में कोई ऐसी समिति बनाई है जो समाचार के कार्यक्रम के बारे में जांच करेगी और अपना प्रतिवेदन सरकार को देगी ; और

(ख) यदि हां तो समिति के गठन तथा उसकी कार्य पद्धति का व्योरा क्या है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण शर्मा) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) जिस अधिसूचना के द्वारा समिति नियुक्त की गई है उसकी एक प्रति सदन की मेज पर रख दी गई है । [ग्रन्थालय में रखा गया । देखिये संख्या एल० टी०-342/77] यह समिति संबंधित व्यक्तियों से गवाही ल रही है, कागजों की जांच कर रही है और बातचीत कर रही है ।

Damage to Badarpur Thermal Power Station

414. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have received reports that shoddy overhauling of units and unwillingness to suspend power generation for vital minor repairs due to political compulsions before the Lok Sabha poll have resulted in all three 100 megawatt units at the Badarpur Thermal Power Station packing up;

(b) estimated cost of repairs to this Station; and

(c) whether any inquiry has since been ordered?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) A Committee is looking into the causes which led to the failure of Unit No. 2 of Badarpur Thermal Power Station in January, 1977. This Unit had undergone extensive capital maintenance in the months of August-October, 1976.

Reports have also been received from the Project authorities about failure of Unit No. 3 in the month of April, 1977. These reports are under examination which involve metallurgical investigations.

Unit No. 1 was on forced outage for about 7 days in the month of May due to failure of thrust pads. The repair work was carried out expeditiously and the Unit is continuously in service since then.

The estimated cost of repairs has not been indicated by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited as yet. They have, however, taken up the repair work at their factory in Hardwar on Unit Nos. 2 and 3 and work on both of them is in progress.