

Substantial parts of Poonch and Rajauri districts of J&K fall within the coverage area of the high power (10 KW) TV transmitter at Poonch and the 2x10W TV transmitter functioning at Rajauri. However, TV service is not expected to be satisfactory at certain places in these districts due to intervening terrain. TV signals are reportedly received in some parts of these districts from transmitters functioning across the border. There are also reports that people living on the other side of the border watch Doordarshan programmes.

(b) to (d). The power of the 10KW TV transmitter functioning at Poonch is envisaged to be augmented to 20KW as part of a Seventh Plan scheme of Doordarshan. This is a project of long gestation and is estimated to take about 3-4 years for completion after commencement of works at the site. On commissioning of this transmitter, TV services in Poonch and Rajauri districts is expected to be considerably strengthened. There is, however, no approved scheme at present to set up separate TV transmitters at Smoru-Kote, Thana Mandi and Dahrhal. Any further strengthening of TV service in the area (as also other parts of the country similarly placed) would depend upon the future availability of resources for this purpose.

Exploration for Oil and Gas in Jammu

1209. SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has been undertaking drilling of wells in Sruinsaar, Jammu for exploring the possibilities of getting oil and natural gas since Seventies; and

(b) if so, results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). ONGC have so far drilled a well Surinsar-1 which was abandoned due to technical complications. Another well Surinsar-2 is under drilling and results will be known only after completion of drilling and testing.

Pitampura T.V. Tower

1210. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been regular disturbances in the reception of T.V. programme after the installation of Pitampura T.V. tower;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to remove these disturbances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.K. TEWARI): (a) to (c). Overall reception on both the TV Channels in the coverage zone of Doordarshan Kendra at Delhi has improved significantly consequent upon commissioning of the TV tower at Pitampura. However, reception in certain pockets of the metropolitan area has been impaired due to reflections caused by highrise buildings/structures. The impairment in such areas can be minimised by appropriately increasing the height of the receiving antenna and/or by realigning/relocating the antenna by the TV set owners.

Interference to Channel-I reception due to a distant foreign TV signal received through an anomalous mode of propagation caused by abnormal atmospheric conditions has occasionally been observed in certain areas. This interference is not regular and continuous.