

[*Translation*]

Coverage of Doordarshan in Madhya Pradesh

770. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the districts of Madhya Pradesh have been covered by the Doordarshan network;

(b) if not, the names of such districts;

(c) whether work has been started to connect all such districts with micro-wave system; and

(d) if so, the time by which all districts of Madhya Pradesh are likely to be covered by Doordarshan network?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a), (b) and (d). All the districts of Madhya Pradesh are, at present, covered by TV service, wholly or partially.

(c) There is no plan to link the TV transmitters in the state through the microwave mode.

Power Crisis in Delhi

771. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the acute power crisis in Delhi;

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government to remove the crisis;

(c) the reasons for electricity crisis in Delhi every year despite Government's assurance every year to maintain uninterrupted power supply in Delhi; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to normalise the position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). The power supply position in Delhi is by and large satisfactory. During the period April to June, 1992, there was only a marginal deficit of 0.7% in the availability of energy which was met by suitable load management and enforcing peak period restrictions on industries. Load shedding on a certain occasions, particularly during summer season, becomes necessary to safeguard the system parameters of the Northern Grid against low frequency and low voltage conditions. Besides plans to increase generation, DESU is augmenting and strengthening its transmission and distribution system at various voltage levels to meet the increasing demand of electricity in Delhi.

[*English*]

Hydro Electric Plant at Farakka

772. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had approved a 125 MW Hydro Electric Plant at Farakka in 1986-87;

(b) if so, the present stage of the projects; and

(c) when it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). Central Electricity Authority has found the project report of Farakka

Barrage Hydroelectric Project (125 MW) as techno-economically in order. However formal clearance can be considered after compliance of Section 29 of Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 by the Farakka Barrage Project Authorities and after clearance is accorded by the Ministry of Water Resources and the Ministry of Environment & Forests. Concurrence of the beneficiary States and Damodar Valley Corporation to purchase power from the of project at the cost determined by the Government would also be necessary.

Curtailement of Flights by International Airlines

773. SHRISHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain international airlines have withdrawn or curtailed their services in India during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons thereof;

(c) the extent to which the cargo and passenger traffic as also tourism prospects has been affected as a result thereof;

(d) the strategy being contemplated to cope with the traffic demand;

(e) whether in the case of India's international carrier, its share continues to fall;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps being taken to rationalise routes to make maximum use of capital intensive equipment?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). During last one year Sabena (Belgian Airline) and Czechoslovak Airlines have discontinued their operations to India; Delta Airlines has replaced PANAM, but with lesser capacity than that deployed earlier by PANAM. The aforesaid foreign airlines have discontinued/curtailed their services in exercise of their commercial judgment.

(c) and (d). No adverse impact is anticipated. Cargo traffic is carried largely by adhoc cargo flights operated under the Open Sky Policy. As far as passenger traffic is concerned, rights are being given to other Airlines, wherever necessary, to operate in order to cope with the traffic demand.

(e) to (g). Air India has retained its market share inspite of competition from other carriers.

Fire in Kidwai Bhavan, New Delhi

774. SHRI TARA CHAND
KHANDELWAL:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA
MURTHY:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the special services of Delhi telephones have been affected following a fire in Kidwai Bhavan, New Delhi during the May, 1992;

(b) if so, the causes thereof and the total loss suffered thereby;

(c) whether the MTNL authorities have failed to set right the services despite more than a month have passed;

(d) whether the telephone lines from the