

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): As on 26.4.1988, 635 Industrial Licence applications including 98 received from various public sector undertakings for grant of letters of intent were at various stages of processing. The details of pending applications including proposed investments are not divulged till the Government have taken final decisions thereon.

TV Programme in Honour of Sindhi Kavi Hundraj Dukhayal

9369. SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to produce a full length programme to be telecast on National Network in honour of Sindhi Kavi Hundraj Dukhayal, a freedom fighter and associate of Acharya Vinoba Bhave, who has been rendering yeoman service to many lost public causes in Gandhidham and Adipur, Kutch in Gujarat and elsewhere in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A programme with Shri Hundraj Dukhayal under the series "Kavi Aur Kavita" in the National Programme of Doordarshan is envisaged.

[Translation]

Schemes for Development of Communications in Bihar

9370. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes for development of communications in Bihar, particularly in Samastipur district, accorded approval this year;

(b) the number of schemes which are under consideration;

(c) the number of approved schemes on which work is in progress; and

(d) the time by which those schemes are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (d).

POSTAL SCHEMES:

89 new post offices are likely to be opened in Bihar Circle including 4 in Samastipur District during the current year. Subject to ban on creation/filling up of posts being granted by Ministry of Finance, these post offices are likely to be opened at different stages upto 31.3.89.

TELECOM SCHEMES

The capacity of Telephone Exchanges in Bihar Circle is proposed to be enhanced by about 16,000 lines during the current year (1988-89). There is no expansion proposed in Samastipur City as there is no waiting list. However there are proposals to provide 128 port electronic exchanges (RAXs) at Patori, Pusa, Rosora and Wani in Samastipur District during this year 1988-89 subject to receipt of equipment in time, which will replace the existing MAX-III exchanges working there. These four places are proposed to be connected to Samastipur by better and reliable transmission media. Besides there are several approved schemes for providing high-grade transmission media of Optical Fibre, Digital Microwave and UHF in Bihar on which the work is in progress. These schemes are likely to be completed during the seventh Plan period subject to availability of equipments in time.