

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) and (d). Whenever the subject is relevant, it will be suitably noticed according to the exigencies of programme planning at each Station of AIR and Doordarshan Kendra keeping in view the utility, the news value, relevance, needs and the listening interest of the area and population.

Statement

Programmes on internal emergency Broadcast from AIR Stations and Telecast from Doordarshan Kendras

In April, 1977, soon after the General Elections and the inception of the Janata Government at the Centre, a series of programmes were produced in both All India Radio and Doordarshan and broadcast and telecast by all Stations of AIR and Doordarshan Kendras. These programmes not only dealt directly with the restoration of civil liberties and freedom of expression and the new concept like "Lok Shakti" and "Total Revolution", but also with the suppression of freedom and misuse of authority that characterised the Emergency period. Again, a number of programmes dealing with the misuse of mass-media during the Emergency were broadcast and telecast from AIR Stations and Doordarshan Kendras in August 1977 when the White Paper on the Misuse of Mass-media was presented to Parliament. In these programmes, leading journalists and broadcasters were invited to participate.

2. On May 15, 1978, Shah Commission's first report was presented in Parliament. During the subsequent months, a series of programmes on the relations made in the Shah Commission's report about the excesses committed during the Emergency and observations made on it were broadcast and telecast from various AIR Stations and Doordarshan Kendras. Most of the programmes were produced at the Delhi Kendra in so far

as Doordarshan were concerned and were circulated to other Kendras. The various topics discussed in these programmes were the suppression of mass-media during the period of Emergency; the unlawful detention of innocent people and curbs on civil liberties; suppression of the normal administrative processes and other misuses of authority during the Emergency period. Leading journalists, lawyers, professors and other eminent public men were invited to participate in these programmes.

3. A few programmes on the main recommendations of the Verghese Committee Report on the Autonomy of Akashvani and Doordarshan when it was presented in early 1978, were also broadcast and telecast, though indirectly, making reference to the abuse of these two media during the period of Emergency.

4. Whenever the experiences under the Emergency have figured during the debates in Parliament and at other forums, these have found mention in news bulletins as well as in the reviews of proceedings of Parliament broadcast and telecast, from AIR Stations and Doordarshan Kendras.

News Report caption 'T. V. remains a Teenager'

2057. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report in the Sunday Standard of 28th January, 1979 under the caption 'TV remains a Teenager';

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government to the observations made therein with regard to the development of the T.V.; and

(c) whether Government also propose to introduce coloured T.V. in India shortly; if so, when and if not; reasons?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is the constant endeavour of Government to improve the quality of the TV programmes through better training, better planning and production of programmes of professional quality and programme exchange between the various TV centres. Doordarshan also engages outside talent for producing programmes, where necessary.

(c) No, Sir. In view of the heavy outlay involved and limited financial resources available, there is no proposal at present to introduce colour TV in India.

Request for Import of more Oil from Kuwait

2058. **SHRI K. MALLANNA:**

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Government have recently requested Kuwait for more oil to meet the shortfall in its imports from Iran; and

(b) if so, the quantity of oil asked for and when it is likely to be delivered?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) There is no proposal at present to import crude oil from Kuwait.

(b) Does not arise.

New Item captioned "Consumer Fools Bill for DESU Mistake"

2059. **SHRI MALLIKARJUN:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been invited to the news item captioned "Consumer fools bill for DESU mistakes" appearing in the Indian Express, New Delhi Edition dated 31st January, 1979;

(b) if so, his reaction thereto and the steps Government propose to take to mitigate the hardships of consumers;

(c) the relevant order or authority under which DESU is exempt from the provisions of the Law on Limitation in the matter of billing the consumers after a lapse of more than three years for meters burnt;

(d) whether it does not devolve on DESU to replace burnt metres immediately;

(e) whether it is the practice that the DESU authorities do not reply to representations made in this regard; and

(f) if so, the number of representations not replied to during 1978-79 and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) DESU has been asked to look into the matter.

(c) DESU is not exempt from the provisions of the Law on limitation.

(d) Every effort is made by DESU to replace burnt meters as soon as it is feasible.

(e) and (f). While it is not the practice, according to DESU, of not replying to representations made, in view of the large number of such representations both oral and in writing, it is difficult to give a precise estimate of the number pending in 1978-79.

Use of Fuel Oils instead of Naphtha as Feed Stock for Production of Fertilizer

2060. **SHRI D. D. DESAI:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have changed their policy of encouraging use of fuel oils instead of naphtha as feed stock for nitrogenous fertilizers;