

During his recent visit to Bhopal on 15th January, 1979, while answering questions from press representatives, the prime Minister said that he was opposed to the idea of a Second Chamber in Parliament and State Legislatures when the issue was debated in the past at the time of the framing of the Indian Constitution. A number of States did, however, have Second Chambers, with some exceptions. However, he made it clear that whatever may be his personal view, decision on such a matter can only be taken collectively.

(c) There is at present no proposal under consideration of the Government of India for any radical reform or abolition of the Legislative Councils in the States.

Hours allotted for Punjabi Programmes

1024. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) how many hours are daily allotted for Punjabi programmes in different Radio Stations in the country;

(b) whether he has under consideration by proposal to increase Punjabi programmes for the considerable Punjabi listening people of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Tarai region of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) what steps are being taken to broadcast Punjabi programmes for the Punjabi listeners in East and South regions of the country?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) The Punjabi programmes are broadcast daily from All India Radio Delhi and Jullundur. The duration of Punjabi programmes broad-

cast as fixed point items is given below station-wise:-

Name of Station	Duration and Frequency
1. Jullundur . . .	404 minutes daily
2. Delhi . . .	60 minutes daily
3. Srinagar . . .	30 minutes each on 3 days per week.
4. Jammu . . .	30 minutes each on 4 days per week.
5. Rohtak . . .	15 minutes each twice a quarter and 10 minutes (Punjabi music) on 2 days per week.

(b) and (c). There is no such proposal. The bulk of programmes from any regional station is broadcast in the main regional language. For providing programmes in minority languages, the numerical size of the minority linguistic group in the region served by a particular station is taken into consideration. Normally, fixed services for minority linguistic group are provided if their population in the service area of the Station concerned is 5 per cent or more.

Various linguistic and cultural groups continue to make claims for broadcast in their respective languages. It has not been possible to meet these claims within the limited resources of the channels and transmitters available at each station. Various linguistic sub-cultures are encouraged to express themselves by arranging light/folk songs etc. in those languages.

घाटी गांव, ग्वालियर के चांदमारी क्षेत्र में दुर्घटना

1025. श्री छबिराम शर्मा : क्या उप प्रधान मंत्री तथा रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश राज्य के ग्वालियर जिले के घाटी गांव में चांदमारी (मिजटरी टारगेट मूडिय) के परिणामस्वरूप दुर्घटनाएं हो रही हैं और यदि हां, तो इन दुर्घटनाओं में अब तक कितने लोग हताहत हुए;