

(ख) यदि हां, तो आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन के दिल्ली केन्द्र से भोजपुरी, अवधी, ब्रज आदि हिन्दी की प्रादेशिक भाषाओं में दैनिक प्रसारण करने हेतु सरकार द्वारा क्या कारगर कदम उठाये गये हैं ?

**सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण अडवाणी):** (क) जी, हां। आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन दोनों ही अग्रिमंश कार्यक्रम उन क्षेत्रों जहाँ रेडियो स्टेशन दूरदर्शन केन्द्र स्थापित हैं, की मुख्य भाषाओं में प्रसारित तथा टेलीकास्ट करते हैं।

(ख) दूरदर्शन केन्द्र दिल्ली से टेलीकास्ट किये जाने वाले कार्यक्रमों की मुख्य भाषा हिन्दी है। तथापि, केन्द्र अपने कार्यक्रमों यदा-कदा भोजपुरी, अवधी, ब्रज आदि के कार्यक्रमों को भी शामिल करता है।

आकाशवाणी का दिल्ली केन्द्र प्रतिदिन 25 मिनट की अवधि का ब्रज-माधुरी कार्यक्रम प्रसारित करता है। इसके अतिरिक्त दिल्ली से कभी कभी हिमाचली, अवधी, राजस्थानी भोजपुरी, छत्तीसगढ़ी, बुंदेलखंडी, मालवी, मैथिली और गढ़वाली में लोक संगीत कार्यक्रम भी प्रसारित किए जाते हैं।

#### **Demands of U.K. Sikhs to Put Up Golden Temple Radio Station**

4934. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) what were the reasons of rejecting the demand of golden temple Radio Station put up by the Sikhs of United Kingdom ; and

(b) whether the Government are planning to make steps to meet their sentiments and will make some arrangement that the Sikhs of Western hemisphere and Europe could listen Shabad Kirtan and 'Mukh-Waak' (First sacred stanza from Guru Granth Sahib of early morning, from Golden Temple at Amritsar ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (L. K. ADVANI) (a) and (b) : The policy of A. I. R. has been to project the glorious and rich heritage of all religions. For this, All India Radio draws

upon the teachings and spiritual experience of all religions and uses extracts from their sacred literature. However, A.I.R. avoids transmission of any denominational programmes and does not lend support to any ritual or religion as such. Setting up of a transmitter exclusively for broadcasting religious programmes did not fit into the above policy.

#### **Price of Petrol**

4935. SHRI DURGA CHAND : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Chamber of Commerce has in recent communications to the Central Government pointed out that the high rate of taxation on oil is contributing to the high cost economy, besides adversely affecting road transport industry and curbing its vast employment potential;

(b) whether it is a fact that the retail price of petrol has risen from Rs. 1.67 per litre to Rs. 3.50 per litre over the last few years ;

(c) if so, what is the excise duty on the retail price of petrol per litre ;

(d) what steps Government are taking to reduce the retail price of petrol ; and

(e) What are the reasons for not reducing the retail price of petrol ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS. (SHRI NARSINGH YADAV): (a) None of the representations referred to appear to have been received in the Ministry.

(b) The retail selling price of petrol in Delhi was Rs. 1.67 per litre in August 1973 and Rs. 4.02 per litre as on date.

(c) Rs. 2.71 per litre.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

(e) Naphtha is used both for the processing of motor spirit and in the manufacture of fertilizers, and larger quantities of naphtha have to be made available for the production of fertilizers. It is therefore necessary to curb the consumption of petroleum products by fiscal measures. However, the increase in the