

हैं, जिन पर भारत सरकार द्वारा अक्टूबर और नवम्बर, 1979 में आयोजित एक बैठक में तीन राज्य सरकारों के साथ विचार-विमर्श किया गया था। इस बैठक में कुछ बिकल्पों का सुझाव दिया गया था लेकिन राज्य सरकारों ने अभी तक इन सुझावों का पूर्ण उत्तर नहीं दिया है। राज्य सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि इस परियोजना पर अभी कार्य आरम्भ नहीं हुआ है और इसलिए अभी तक इस पर कोई व्यय नहीं हुआ है।

Grant of licences and contracts to Attached Offices and Public Undertakings

3378. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences and contracts granted by this Ministry, its attached offices and related public undertakings during the last six months along with the details of the amount involved in each case; and

(b) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to give preference to those persons who are unemployed?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) (a) & (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Newspapers under purview of MRTP Act

3379. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the newspapers with large circulation come under the purview of the M.R.T.P. Act;

(b) if so, what are the names of these newspapers; and

(c) what steps are proposed to protect the interests of the small

newspapers published from district places from encroachment by big newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (b). Newspapers can come under the purview of M.R.T.P. Act on the basis of their assets, inter-connections or dominance and not on the basis of their circulation. As on 31-3-1980 the following newspaper undertakings are registered, or have been found to be registerable, under Section 26 of the M.R.T.P. Act, 1969, read with Section 20(a) as the value of their assets, including the assets of interconnected undertakings, exceed Rs. 20 crores:—

1. Indian Express Newspapers (Bombay) Pvt. Ltd., Bombay
2. Indian Express (Madurai) Pvt. Ltd., Madras.
3. Traders Private Limited, Bombay.
4. Andhra Prabha Private Limited Vijayawada.
5. Newspapers Limited, Allahabad.
6. Tamilnadu, Madras.
7. Bennett, Coleman and Co. Ltd., Bombay.
8. Hindustan Times Limited, New Delhi.

(c) In our Newsprint Allocation Policy, recently announced, small and medium newspapers have been given higher initial allocation of newsprint as also longer validity period extending up to six months to protect the interest of these group of newspapers. It has also been proposed therein that henceforth newsprint from STC's buffer at ports will be available to them on equalised prices. These steps will help them to become more viable. Advertising Policy of the Government is also being reviewed to provide for suitable advertising help