

sation of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet. Dr. Kothari has also referred to this subject in his Founder Memorial Lecture delivered on April 26, 1967, at the Shri Ram Institute for Industrial Research. This question is being examined.

Prime Minister's Secretariat

3584. Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri K. N. Tiwary:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred on the Prime Minister's Secretariat in 1965 and 1966; and

(b) whether Government contemplate to reduce the expenditure further?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) The expenditure on the Prime Minister's Secretariat for the years 1965-66 and 1966-67 was as follows:—

1965-66	Rs. 15,39,910.17
1966-67	Rs. 16,22,290.24

(b) Every effort is made to effect economies wherever possible.

Weather Broadcast

3585. Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri K. N. Tiwary:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate arrangements have been made from June to November, 1967 for daily broadcasting in various State languages about weather conditions well in advance so that Kisans may start their cultivation on the basis of forecasts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shah): (a) Yes, Sir. Weather reports and weather forecasts are regularly broadcast in rural programmes from all stations of All India Radio.

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(b) The Director General, Meteorology and the various regional offices of the Meteorological Department supply these bulletins regularly to all All India Radio stations. Arrangements for this purpose already exist.

Karnali Hydro-Electric Project in Nepal

3586. Shri Sharda Nand:
Shri Hukam Chand Kachwal:
Shri Jagannath Rao Joshi:
Shri Bharat Singh Chauhan:
Shri Ranjit Singh:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 367 on the 3rd April, 1967 and state:

(a) whether the report of the Karnali Hydro-Electric Project in Nepal sent by the Government of Nepal to the Government of India has been studied; and

(b) if so, the details of the report and the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) The report is still under study.

(b) Does not arise.

Replies to the Letters of M.Ps. by Ministers

3587. Dr. Karni Singh:
Shrimati Nirlep Kaar:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the reasons for the letters from Members of Parliament to various Ministers being replied to by Private Secretaries which is a departure from the practice that prevailed during Prime Minister Nehru's time when communications from Members of Parliament were replied to by the Ministers themselves including the Prime Minister himself?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): There is no desire to depart from the practice to which the hon. Members have referred. On the contrary, it is the constant endeavour of