

**Weekly Weather Forecast Reports**

1734. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plans to communicate weekly weather forecast reports to the block level to facilitate the farmers to plan their agricultural operations;

(b) if so, the time by which this communication is likely to be provided; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The Government have plans to communicate weekly weather forecast reports at the agro-climatic zone level to facilitate the farmers to plan their agricultural operations.

National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF) is at present communicating 3-day agro-meteorological weather forecasts to 80 agro-meteorological field units. It is expected that by the year 2000 A.D., 5-day forecasts will be communicated to 127 agro-meteorological field units spread all over the country.

[*Translation*]

**Doordarshan Kendra at Bhandara and Arjuni Morgaon in Maharashtra**

1735. PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish a Doordarshan Kendra each at Bhandara and Arjuni Morgaon Districts of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the time by which final decision is likely to be taken in this regard;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in regard to the indistinct and unclear reception of the programmes telecast by Doordarshan in Chandrapur and Brahmapuri districts of Maharashtra where evening transmission starts from 4.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.;

(d) whether the transmission time would be extended; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) There is no approved scheme, at present, to set up a Doordarshan Kendra in Bhandara District of Maharashtra or in Arjuni Morgaon which also falls in Bhandara District.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) LPTs at Chandrapur and Brahmapuri are functioning normally. However, LPT Brahmapuri is providing part time transmission. Regular transmission will commence as soon as staff sanction and deployment is made which is a continuous process.

[*English*]

**National Lake Conservation Plan**

1736. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated National Lake Conservation Plan;

(b) if so, the total outlays of the plan;

(c) the lakes included in the project;

(d) whether progress in respect of conservation of Dal Lake was slow; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A National Lake Conservation Plan has been formulated at an estimated outlay of Rs. 637 crore to include the following ten polluted urban lakes. The scheme has not been approved by Government so far. However, 'in principle' approval has been given to take up the work of conservation of the Dal lake in Kashmir.

(i) Dal lake (J&K)

(ii) Rabindra Sarovar (West Bengal)

(iii) Sukhna (Chandigarh)

(iv) Sagar (Madhya Pradesh)

(v) Nainital (Uttar Pradesh)

(vi) Kodai Kanal (Tamil Nadu)

(vii) Ooty (Tamil Nadu)

(viii) Udaipur (Rajasthan)

(ix) Powai (Maharashtra)

(x) Hussain Sagar (Andhra Pradesh)