

MR. SPEAKER: Shri V.N. Gadgil...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Mr. Gadgil. Mr. Kundu, I have not permitted you. Please take your seat.

SHRI V.N. GADGIL: Sir, I appreciate the moral fervor of Prof. Dandavate when dealing with this question. I would like to know from him whether with the same moral fervor he will deal with the subject which is raised by the Deputy Prime Minister in his letter to the Prime Minister about the Goenka Group

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Moral fervor may be identical, Mr. Gadgil. You need not worry about it

MR. SPEAKER. Next question. Shri Kalp Nath Rai .

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No cross talk please...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER I have called Mr. Kalp Nath Rai .

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: We have the moral fervor and you are the last person from whom I have to learn the lesson of morality... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Akbar, Mr. Kumaramangalam, take your seats. I have called Mr. Kalp Nath Rai to raise his question.

Broadcast of Midnight Programmes

*535. SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Radio broadcast

some programmes on its National Channel late in the night and from mid-night till early morning;

(b) if so, for whose benefit such programmes, late in the night, are intended;

(c) whether it is proposed to re-arrange the timings of these programmes and put them for broadcast during the day; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

All India Radio at present broadcasts programmes in its National Channel from 6.55 P.M. to 6.10 A.M.

2. These late night programmes are listened to by shift duty personnel who are on night duty, students who put in long hours of study during the night, travelling public including truck drivers, other categories of persons who keep awake till the early hours (like small shop-owners, workers, etc.).

3. There is no proposal to re-arrange the timings of these programmes and to put them for broadcast during the day as the day-time coverage of the transmitter is limited due to technical reasons and does not cover major part of the country, and there are other programmes being broadcast during day time.

[Translation]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister through you the number of listeners who are benefited by the late night programmes broadcast by All India Radio? Will the hon.

Minister also state as to how many of the late night programmes intended for the students are really benefiting them?

[English]

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Sir, the programmes start at 6.55 p.m. and go up to 6.10 next morning. After 11.15 p.m., mostly classic music—both Hindustani and Carnatic—regional music, light music, devotional music, film music and Western music are broadcast till morning.

[Translation]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now the hon. Minister referred to the various music programmes being broadcast by the All India Radio for the students..... (Interruptions) Why are you not interested in listening to me..... (Interruptions) What I wanted to know in my question was the number of listeners who listen to the late night programmes being broadcast by the All India Radio? Secondly are these programmes intended to benefit the students who study during the night or to disturb them?

[English]

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Sir, in my answer to the question I have clearly stated that these people who listen to these programmes include the night-shift duty personnel, the students who have put in longer hours of study during the night, travelling public including the truck drivers and young people, as well as old men with young heart—are all listening to the programmes.

[Translation]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal to re-schedule the programme named "Sansad Sameeksha" which is broadcast late at night, so as to broadcast it around 9.00 or 9.30 P.M.? Since this programme concerns the Members of Parliament who represent crores

of people, will the hon. Minister consider re-scheduling it, as at present the programme is broadcast quite late in the night and by that time most of the people go to bed?

[English]

SHRI P. UPENDRA: The hon. Member's question relates to the national channel which is operated late in the night. But I was not discussing the other programmes during the night time and I will consult the people concerned and I will write to him.

SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARDHANAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to put a question to the Government with your protection. Sir, there was a programme on the 14th of this month in the Doordarshan programmes from the TV Centre, Madras, Tamil Nadu, which was presided over by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, that is not relevant here.

SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARDHANAN: Sir, it is a serious matter. You must do something for this.

MR. SPEAKER: Your supplementary should have some relevance with the main question.

SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARDHANAN: I am coming to the question. Sir, in that programme, one lady named Arasu Manimegalai sang a poem in Tamil, that is—

"Thoppikkul kunthi irukkum
jathikkuzhappam"

Sir, these lines in Tamil are insinuating the Harijans because it ridicules the cause of clash between Harijans and "Maravas" as it happened just three days earlier. Those lines in the poem were particularly hurting the feelings of the Harijans in the area. Such programmes in the TV are intolerable. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will enquire into this matter and tell us whether such a programme presided over by the

Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is permitted

[Translation]

SHRI P UPENDRA The question is about the Radio and TV programmes on the national Channel late in the night I cannot expand the scope of the question I will discuss the matter with the hon Member

[Translation]

SHRINANDKUMARSAI Mr Speaker, Sir, just now an hon Member has said that the midnight programmes cause disturbance to children I would like to know from hon Minister, through you, whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to suspend telecast well before midnight?

SHRI P UPENDRA Mr Speaker Sir there is normal telecast till 11 10 p m There after programmes on national channel are telecast for particular people and they create no disturbance at all

DR SHAILENDRANATH SHRIVASTAVA Mr Speaker Sir I would like to know from the hon Minister whether any complaints have been received from the viewers about the ill effect of mid night programmes on their family life, health and moral conduct I would also like to know for whose interests these midnight programmes are being telecast? It has been stated by the hon Minister that very few people watch these programme Was any survey undertaken to know the ill effects of the programmes on the viewers?

SHRI P UPENDRA The effect has been good only

[English]

Sir, as we all know the scientists have established that cows give more milk when they listen to the music and here also the students nowadays listen to the pop music through their ears and they go on studying I don't think there is any disturbance and whatever feed back we got it is entirely in favour of the people

SHRI R N RAKESH Mr Speaker, Sir, next year, we are going to celebrate birth centenary of Dr Ambedkar I would like to know whether Doordarshan has prepared any programme on the life and work of Dr B R Ambedkar to telecast over Doordarshan for the whole year

[English]

SHRI P UPENDRA Sir, though the question is a little off the mark, I will answer it because it relates to Dr Ambedkar whom we all respect This Centenary has started on the 14th April and we had a special programme on that day both on the Radio and the Television and we have planned a number of programmes for the entire year and also we are trying to produce special films on Dr Ambedkar through the Films Division during the year

Export of Iron Ore to South Korea by MMTC

*537 SHRI LOKANATH CH-
OUDHURY Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation propose to export iron ore to South Korea through Paradeep Port and

(b) if so the details of the plan including the estimated tonnage of export and when it will be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF
MOHAMMAD KHAN) (a) and (b) A State-
ment is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT

(a) Yes Sir

(b) MMTC is persuading the South Korean buyers to resume off-take of iron Ore from Paradip to meet their additional re