

pleted and we have decided to go in for a global tender. Now, the whole proposal is going to the PIB. I have kept myself to the target date and I feel that within the next two weeks, the proposals for the PIB clearance will go from our Ministry to the PIB.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, though there is a general shortage of steel in our country but out of the various qualities of it available, the actual production of some of them is on a very high side while there is a heavy shortage of some other qualities. For example, I would like to refer to the production of tin plates. There is acute shortage of these in the country. At present tin plates are used in the packing of almost every commodity. But due to scarcity of tin plates, the small scale industry has been the worst sufferer since they do not get tin plates for manufacturing containers etc. As such, will the hon'ble Minister take some steps so as to provide immediate relief to the tin plate industries?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, I do admit that there are varying degrees of shortages so far as different items are concerned. We are facing external input problems also. However, we are trying to pump money in the massive modernisation programmes that we have. Within the sphere of shortage, we try to observe and try to maintain the industry as far as possible. Within our limitations, we are trying to help them. Still, we have a check on the demand and supply position and whatever is possible from our end, we will try to do.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Improvement in News Bulletins

*126. **SHRI D.M. PUTTE GOWDA:**

SHRI R. GUNDU RAO:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan is planning extensive improvements in the news bulletins and their contents which would include a half-an-hour news bulletin each in Hindi and English in its national programme instead of 20 minutes at present; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision in this regard would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) and (b). It is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to improve the quality of its news bulletins. The duration of Hindi and English news bulletins telecast on Saturdays and Sundays in the evening on National network has recently been increased from 20 minutes to 30 minutes. Extension of duration of news bulletins on other days will be considered later.

Family Pension Scheme for RBI Employees

*127. **SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is a demand from the employees of the Reserve Bank of India for introduction of family pension scheme as is applicable to Central Government employees; and

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto?