

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

**Dish-Antennas for T.V. viewers in Rural Areas of Andhra Pradesh**

\*801. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the T.V. viewers in rural areas of Andhra Pradesh have to spend amount for getting clear T.V. reception; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to supply dish antennas in those areas at subsidised rates?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). TV service is, at present, available to about 58% of rural population of Andhra Pradesh, inclusive of the population in fringe areas, where elevated multi-element antennae and/or boosters are required for receiving satisfactory reception. Cost of these antennae/boosters is not excessive. With the completion of VII Plan schemes in hand, TV service is expected to become available to about 69% of rural population of the State. Further extension of T.V. coverage would depend on the availability of resources for future Plans of TV expansion.

**Telecast of Sansad Samachar in Regional Languages**

\*803. SHRI B.B. RAMAIAH:  
SHRI V. SOBHANADREES-  
WARA RAO:

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

(a) whether Government have any

proposal to telecast "Sansad Samachar" in the regional languages from the respective Doordarshan Kendras when the Parliament is in session;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the date from which the proposal is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 'Sansad Samachar' in Hindi and 'Parliament News' in English are being telecast in the National Programme of Doordarshan carried by all transmitters. Due to paucity of transmission time, it is not possible to telecast these programmes in regional languages from respective Doordarshan Kendras. The proceedings in Parliament are, however, noticed in the National news as well as regional news bulletins telecast from different Doordarshan Kendras.

**Installation of Long Distance Public Telephones in Rural Areas**

\*806. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the State-wise number of long distance public telephones proposed to be installed in the rural areas during the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH): The Eighth Plan proposals are in the process of finalisation.