

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a). Whereas substantial parts of Poonch and Rajouri districts of Jammu and Kashmir fall within the coverage area of the high power (10KW) TV Transmitter at Poonch and the 2X10 W TV transmitter functioning at Rajouri, certain places in these districts do not receive TV service due to the intervening hilly terrain.

(b) Whereas a scheme for the establishment of a TV transposer at Surankot in Poonch district of Jammu & Kashmir is under implementation, it is also envisaged to augment the power of the 10 KW TV transmitter at Poonch to 20 KW. On implementation of these schemes, TV service in Poonch and Rajouri districts will improve.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of high power Doordarshan Transmitters in Bihar

870. SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up high power transmitters of Doordarshan to cover northern border areas of Bihar:

(b) whether Government also propose to set up any TV Centre in Bihar for preparing Doordarshan programmes; and

(c) if so, the time by which it will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a). Yes, Sir. A high power (10KW) TV transmitter is under implementation at Katihar in Northern Bihar. This is in addition to seven low power transmitters already functioning in the northern border area of Bihar.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The establishment of programme production centres at Patna, Ranchi, Muzaffarpur and Daltonganj are in various stages of implementation in Bihar. Whereas the installation work of the Centre at Muzaffarpur has been completed, those at Daltonganj, Patna and Ranchi are scheduled to be commissioned during 1991-93.

[*English*]

Development of Tourist Places in States

871. SHRI GANGA CHARAN LODHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Union Government to develop tourist places in certain States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):

(a) and (b). The Department of Tourism provides financial assistance to the States/ Union Territories for strengthening tourism infrastructure in the country, which is extended for construction of wayside facilities, cafeterias, tourist complexes, restaurants, yatri niwases, yatrikas, tourist transport, equipment for adventure sports etc.

Opening of Branches of Regional Rural Banks

872. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any restriction for opening new branches under regional rural banks; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The branches of Regional Rural Banks and

other commercial banks are opened after taking into consideration their viability and the credit requirements of all kinds of borrowers in the area.

Interest on Agricultural Loans

873. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agriculturists in some States have to pay more interest for the agricultural loans sanctioned by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development which ultimately reaches to farmers through State Co-operative Banks/District Co-operative Banks/Co-operative Societies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have reported that, as per the instructions issued by them, the rate of interest to be charged on short-term agricultural loans issued to farmers through Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) is the same throughout the country. They have further intimated in this regard that they conducted certain test checks in the area of operation of some Central Co-operative

Banks to ascertain whether the PACS are following the interest rate prescribed by them. The text checks have shown that in general the rate of interest charged in the same as that prescribed by NABARD/ Reserve Bank of India.

Ratio Between Deposits and Disbursement of Loans in Nationalised Banks in Kerala

874. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ratio between deposits and disbursement of loans in all the nationalised banks in Kerala is very low;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps contemplated to increase the ratio?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). The data reporting system of the banks does not provide information in the manner asked for. However, the ratio of aggregate deposits and outstanding loans of nationalised banks in Kerala compares favourably with their All India figures. The credit deposit ratio of nationalised banks in Kerala and at All India level as on December 1987, December 1988 and as on the last Friday of September 1989 (Latest available) are given below:

	<i>Kerala</i>	<i>All-India</i>
December, 1987	59.15%	56.12%
December, 1988	59.20%	55.83%
September, 1989	61.63%	58.03%