

Assam Will Have TV Within 3 Years : Sathe

By A Staff Reporter

GUWAHATI, Oct. 19—Sri Vasant Sathe, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, said here today that Assam would have television in next two or three years time.

Sri Sathe, who arrived here this morning on a tour of north eastern region, accompanied by a team of high officials of his Ministry, told reporters that officers have selected a site for the TV tower in the city. The tower will be one of most important landmarks built of reinforced concrete and having viewing gallery on top.

Announcing a 'crash plan' of media development in the north eastern region, Sri Sathe said that power of transmitters of Guwahati, Shillong, Dibrugarh, Tura and some other stations would be increased. The Transmitter networks would be linked with a Satellite to be launched in April next year.

Referring to the Gauhati station of the AIR, Sri Sathe said that it was decided to raise the short wave power of the station from 10 KW to 30 KW. Besides, there will be a local radio station at Diphu to cover the uncovered areas. The Gauhati Station might go for commercial broadcasting from next year, he said.

Sri Sathe, who said that he has brought the entire Ministry with him, assured that the Government wanted to come in a big way so far media is concerned. He will leave for Shillong tomorrow and subsequently visit Kohima, Imphal and Aizwal and return to Calcutta from Silchar by air on way to New Delhi.

Sri Sathe today met the local media officials and is understood to have informed them of the crash plan of the I & B Ministry for north eastern region. He addressed a Congress (I) workers meeting in evening.

Sri Sathe today had discussion with the Assam Governor, Sri Prakash Mehrotra on the prevailing situation in the State.

PTI adds: Sri Sathe today expressed the hope that the newspapers and news agencies which had not yet implemented the Palekar award for journalists and non-journalists would implement it without further delay.

Sri Sathe told a Press conference here that for the sake of "justice and fair play" the newspapers and news agency managements should implement the award.

He also hoped the State Government and concerned authorities would ensure the full implementation of the award.

Meanwhile, The All Assam Central semi-Central Employees parishad submitted a memorandum to Sri Vasant Sathe, at Raj Bhawan today.

The memorandum includes demands for raising the transmission capacity of Guwahati Station of All India Radio, expansion of news section of Guwahati station by introducing late night regional news bulletin, immediate introduction of Assamese news bulletin, Assamese musical and other programme through Silchar Radio Station, expediting establishment of the proposed TV centre at Guwahati and immediate cancellation of transfer order upon Sri Promode Salkia and Sri Jamini Goswami, the two employees of AIR Guwahati, who been transferred to New Delhi respectively in the wake of Assam agitation.

20-October-1981
The Assam Tribune