

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) The Growth Centre Scheme which is at present being implemented in identified backward areas is meant only to develop infrastructure facilities in these Centres with a view to attract industries there. As far as setting up of heavy industry is concerned, following the delicensing of the non-strategic sector, the initiative for location of industries rests with the promoter. In so far as the Department of Heavy Industry is concerned, there is no proposal at present for setting up any new unit in public sector.

Channels provided by DD Kendra of Bangalore

2721. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of channels presently provided by Doordarshan Kendra, Bangalore;

(b) whether the number of channels from DD Bangalore is proposed to be increased from March, 2003; and

(c) the steps being taken to expand the DD base in Bangalore including its production facility?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Two channels, DD-1 and DD-2, are relayed in terrestrial mode, by DDK, Bangalore, and DD-9 (Kannada Channel) uplinked from DDK, Bangalore is available to viewers in satellite mode.

(b) A digital terrestrial transmitter (DTT), capable of transmitting up to 10 channels, is envisaged to be set up at Bangalore in the Annual Plan, 2002-03.

(c) Doordarshan has proposed digitalization of production facilities at major Kendras including DDK, Bangalore during the 10th Plan.

Resignation of the Chairman of Central Censor Board

2722. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman of the Central Censor Board has resigned before the completion of his term;

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(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) Government's policy on pornographic films;

(d) whether there is any difference of opinion in this regard between Government and the Censor Board; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and how it is proposed to be resolved?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) In the process of considering suggestions to amend the cinematograph Act, 1952, and the rules and guidelines relating to film certification, a committee formed by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) had proposed to examine a suggestion to introduce a certification category for soft pornographic films. The Government had advised CBFC that consideration of this suggestion was neither desirable nor in order, whereupon the Chairman, CBFC had resigned. Government policy on the content of films is laid down in the guidelines prescribed in terms of the Cinematograph Act, one of the objectives of which is that the medium of films should provide clean and healthy entertainment.

Prints of the Award Winning Films

2723. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI:

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

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

(a) whether Government are aware that most of the prints of the award winning films lying with Directorate of Film Festivals are in a shabby condition and not fit to be screened;

(b) whether there is any proposal to make new prints of such films to enable their participation in various festivals and retrospectives being held abroad; and

(c) the details of funds being made available for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The Directorate of Film Festivals does not normally acquire prints of award winning films. Prints of films,