

of foreign investor, keeping editorial and management control in the hands of resident Indians and ensuring against dispersal of Indian equity, with a view to allow greater investment in the print media sector as is available in the other segments of the media. It has also been decided to allow Indian editions of foreign scientific, technical and speciality magazines/periodicals/journals and to allow foreign investment upto 74 per cent in Indian entities publishing scientific, technical and speciality magazines/periodicals/journals, on a case by case basis after due deliberations and addressing all concerns.

Akashvani Centre at District Headquarters of Rajgadh (M.P.)

525. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work relating to setting-up of Akashvani Centre at District Headquarters of Rajgadh (M.P.) has been completed.

(b) the reasons for delay in commissioning the Centre and by when the centre is likely to be commissioned; and

(c) the details of the employees working there?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The Akashvani Centre at District Headquarters of Rajgadh (M.P.) is ready.

(b) The station will be commissioned after sanction of staff for Operations and Maintenance.

(c) No staff has been posted so far for running the station.

Installation of TV towers in Chhattishgarh

†526. SHRI RAMDHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that various areas of Chhattisgarh are deprived of Doordarshan Programmes;

(b) whether any proposal to install TV towers in these areas is under consideration; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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(c) if so, the progress being made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) prasar Bharati has informed that some areas of Chhattisgarh are at present not covered by Doordarshan transmission in terrestrial mode.

(b) and (c) A Low Power Transmitter (LPT) is being installed at Pandaria, and the interim High Power Transmitter (HPT) at Ambikapur is being upgraded from 1 KW to 10 KW. Installation of Low Power Transmitter at Pandaria is nearing completion. Foundation of 150 M towers at Ambikapur has been completed and erection work is being taken up.

Fall in revenue of DD

527. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the revenue of Doordarshan has fallen in the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by government to stem the fall in revenue of DD?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) the gross Commercial revenue earned by Doordarshan during the last three years is as under:

1999-2000 Rs. 597.19 crores

2000-2001 Rs. 637.51 crores

2001-2002 Rs. 615.21 crores

It will be seen that the drop in revenue in 2001-2002, is marginal.

(c) Prasar Bharati has intimated that within the constraints of a Public Service Broadcaster, Prasar Bharati endeavours to maximise its commercial revenue. Various measures taken by Doordarshan to enhance its revenue included improvement in the transmission quality and reception of Doordarshan Channels through digitalisation, exploiting the commercial potential of various Regional Kendras, rationalisation of Rate Card to make