

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARJUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) No Sir, Indian companies who are broadcasters and having minimum 80% Indian equity holding with Indian management control, have been permitted either to uplink (in 'C Band only) through VSNL or by setting up their own uplink Earth Station. In such cases, WPC Wing of Deptt, of Telecommunication have been charging licence and royalty fee and VSNL, where involved, is charging service fee as per norms.

**Losses suffered by NFDC**

†573. SHRI RAMJI LAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION and BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the yearly loss suffered by the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) during the last two years and the loss suffered so far, during the current- financial year;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Corporation also was owes crores of rupees to Government electronic media; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARJUN JAITLEY): (a) National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) has not suffered any loss during the year 1997-98. The Corporation earned a net profit of Rs. 4.30 crores during the year. However, for the year 1998-99 the company suffered a net loss of Rs. 10.57 crores as per the provisional un-audited accounts of the Corporation. The performance for the current financial year 1999-2000 (upto 30th September, 1999) has been satisfactory with the company making a net profit of Rs. 2.34 crores (figures provisional and subject to audit).

(b) The reasons for the losses suffered by the Corporation during 1998-1999 were the recessionary pressures in the market coupled with stiff competition from private satellite channels which adversely affected the company's major revenue earning activity viz. Television (FCT) Marketing. As a result the Television Marketing Activity failed to generate sufficient revenue to cover cost.

(c) and (d) As on 30th September 1999 amount payable by NFDC to Doordarshan is Rs. 16.72 crores after taking into account the adjustments because of delayed telecast due to Doordarshan programme exigencies and disrupted telecast amounting to Rs. 10 crores for 1997-98 and Rs. 15.50 crores for 1998-99.

The payments outstanding are net of the amount payable by Doordarshan to NFDC in respect of various services rendered such as technical, marketing and production services. The figures reported are subject to reconciliation and confirmation by Doordarshan.

**Telecasting programme of defaulting producers and agencies**

574. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan proposes to discontinue telecasting of programmes of defaulting producers and agencies who failed to pay outstanding telecast fees;

(b) if so, the details of defaulting producers and agencies who failed to pay outstanding telecast fees and the details of arrears outstanding against them;

(c) whether Government propose to bring transparency in the functioning of Doordarshan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARJUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir. Doordarshan's agreements for telecast of sponsored programmes are through agencies only. Programmes of major defaulting agencies who failed to clear their outstanding dues have been discontinued and legal action initiated against them. The other defaulting agencies have been asked to pay the outstanding due in instalments and till the dues are cleared, the agencies are allowed to run their programmes on advance payment of telecast fee.

(b) The details are given in the Statement. (*See below*)

(c) and (d) Doordarshan have identified sensitive areas of their activities and issued orders streamlining the procedures involved in processing the serials, programmes, events etc.