

(a) whether any request has been made for establishing a new station of All India Radio at Salem in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to resource constraints it has not been possible to include a AIR Station project in Salem in the ninth five year plan.

Terms and Conditions for Satellite Broadcasters.

585. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the terms and conditions for satellite broadcasters to operate in the country and whether Govt. have reviewed in recent past such conditions, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the cable Networks Association has recently suggested Prime Minister to amend the Cable Networks (Regulations) Act 1995 to prevent the satellite broadcasting and cable networking from falling in foreign hands; and

(c) if so, the steps/action taken on such suggestion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) As per the policy the satellite broadcasters were not allowed to operate in the country earlier but in the recent past Govt. have decided to permit Indian managed satellite broadcasters to uplink from India through VSNL only. The main parameters and criteria laid down to uplink from India are as follows:

- (1) The applicant should be an Indian satellite channel with resident Indian equity holding of not less than 80% and effective managed control being with resident Indians.
- (2) The applicant satellite channel should be presently uplinking from

another country, obtaining foreign exchange release for this purpose.

- (3) The channels would be required to abide by the Programme and advertising Codes, as are presently applicable to Doordarshan.
 - (4) The uplinking facility would be available only by through VSNL.
 - (5) The facility would be available only on ITU co-ordinated satellites— which would mean successful completion of national and international co-ordination as appropriate, within the co-ordinated technical parameters, noting that this permission for uplinking cannot be construed to imply international agreement by the Indian administration of the satellite network nor relaxation of the technical parameters as agreed in the international agreements.
 - (6) Applicants have to be in possession of a transponder on such satellite as enumerated in point 5 above.
 - (7) The approval would be subject to the siting clearance from Standing Advisory Committee for Frequency Assignment (SACFA) and clearance from the Deptt. of Space as per their SATCOM Policy.
 - (8) The transmission would be in C Band (not above 4800 MHz) only and for Television signals only.
 - (9) The uplinking permission would be granted for a period of one year in the first instance.
 - (10) The applications would be vetted for security clearance by the Home Ministry before final approval is granted.
- (b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Govt. propose to introduce a new Broadcasting Bill in Parliament for facilitating and regulating private broadcasting from within the

country and providing a level playing field to the Indian operators.

Separate Doordarshan Channels for Sports and Culture

586. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan has decided to start separate channels for sports and culture; and

(b) if so, by when the channels are likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) The Prasar Bharati Board has decided, in principle, to launch an exclusive Sports Channel. As the details in this regard are yet to be worked out, no specific time frame for operationalisation of the Channel can be indicated at present.

प्रसार भारती निगम

587. श्री रमा शंकर कौशिक: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि प्रसार भारती निगम में 1400/- करोड़ रुपए का घोटाला हुआ है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने इस संबंध में किसी स्वतंत्र एवं निष्पक्ष एजेंसी से जांच करायी है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है, और सरकार ने घोटाले के लिए जिम्मेदार अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं, और ऐसे आधारहीन आरोप लगाने का उद्देश्य क्या है?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार नकवी): (क) यह सत्य है कि वित्तीय अनियमितताएं ध्यान में आई हैं।

(ख) और (ग) तथ्यों का पता लगाने से संबंधित प्रारंभिक जांच का कार्य प्रगति पर है।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Setting up of New Power Transmitters

588. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of very high power and low power transmitters functioning in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the details of such transmitters proposed to be set up during the current financial year, location-wise, particularly in the State of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) Number of high power and low power TV transmitters functioning in the country State-wise is given in Statement-I (See below).

(b) Whereas 2 HPTs, 59 LPTs and 25 VLPTs have been commissioned in the country during current financial year 288 transmitters of varying power (57 HPTs, 139 LPTs, 84 VLPTs, 8 transposers), presently under implementation in the country including Gujarat State, are expected to be completed in phases. Locations of transmitters under implementation in Gujarat and those commissioned during current financial year in Gujarat are given in Statement-II (See below).

Statement-I

Doordarshan Network (As on 30.11.1998)

S.No.	STATE/U.T.s	TV TRANSMITTERS (PRIMARY CHANNEL)					TV TRANSMITTERS (OTHER THAN PRIMARY CHANNEL)				
		PPCs	HPTs	LPTs	VLPTs	TRANS	TOTAL	HPTs	LPTs	VLPTs	TOTAL
01.	Assam	3	3	19	1	1	24	0	3	0	3
02.	Andhra Pradesh	1	8	61	6	1	76	1	0	0	1