

(c) It is proposed to construct archival facilities of international standards within the existing complex of Films Division at Mumbai for storage of archival material.

Programmes Based on Different Religions

2112. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prasar Bharati is telecasting programmes based on different religions of the country;

(b) if so, the programmes telecast during the last one year, religion-wise; and

(c) whether justice has been done to all religions, if so, the time, allocated for such programmes, religion-wise on the national network during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) No, Sir. Prasar Bharati have informed that no programme is telecast making religion as a base. Only Junctions of various religions are covered and telecast.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It has been intimated by Prasar Bharati that no fixed time slots are allotted for coverage of religious functions/events. However, justice is done to all religions to the extent possible, by providing appropriate coverage to their important functions.

Educational Channel on Doordarshan

2113. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a working Group in Education Department under HRD Ministry and a Sub-Committee under Prasar Bharati to formulate policy guidelines and other related matters to launch a separate educational channel on Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and present status of the report of the working Group/Sub-Committee.

(c) details of decision taken in this regard; and

(d) whether Government are considering launching a separate entertainment - cum - educational channel for children on priority basis and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) to (c) The matter relating to setting up a separate Educational Channel was earlier being examined by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Doordarshan in consultation with the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development. However, Prasar Bharati are examining the matter afresh. They have set up a Sub-Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Romila Thaper to formulate policy guidelines and other related matters to launch a separate Educational Channel. Two meetings of the Sub-Committee have been held on 12-13 February 1998 (1st meeting) and 24th March, 1998 (2nd meeting). Prasar Bharati have intimated that a decision with regard to the likely date of starting the Educational Channel can be taken only after the preliminary work on the recommendations contained in the minutes of the two meetings of the Sub-Committee is completed. It has further been intimated by Prasar Bharati that tentatively they are working on start of the Educational Channel by 2002.

(d) No, Sir.

Regional News Bulletin in Assamese/ Mising Language

2114. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of plans for starting regional news bulletin in Assamese and Mising language from AIR and Doordarshan Kendra, Dibrugarh in Assam;

(b) the time by which these are likely to be commissioned;

(c) the reasons for very poor quality coverage by Dibrugarh at Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Sonitpur, Jorhat, Sibsagar and Goalaghat districts and steps taken to improve by means other than LPTs;

(d) whether Airport authority have cleared the issue of raising the tower height of Doordarshan Kendra, Dibrugarh upto 150m; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) All India Radio, Dibrugarh is already broadcasting a 5 minutes news bulletin in Assamese daily and a five minutes weekly news summary in Mishing dialect every Wednesday. There is no plan to start regional news bulletin in Assamese language and Mishing dialect from Doordarshan Kendra, Dibrugarh at present due to various resource constraints.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Whereas districts of Sonitpur and Golaghat do not lie in the coverage range of HPT, Dibrugarh, reception range in the districts Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Jorhat and Sibsagar is affected due to the height of the tower. Necessary clearance to increase the height of the tower of HPT, Dibrugarh to 150m has since been obtained from Airport Authority. The project to increase the height of the tower which would improve the reception quality in these districts would take about 2-3 years' time after sanctioning of the scheme subject to availability of resources, infrastructural facilities and inter-se priorities.

जी० टी० वी० के प्रसारण के लिए शर्तें

2115. श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में जी० टी० वी० को प्रसारण का अधिकार देने से पूर्व कौन-कौन सी शर्तें निधारित की गई,

(ख) क्या जी० टी० वी० द्वारा वर्तमान में उक्त शर्तों का उचित तरीके से वास्तव में पालन किया जा रहा है,

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो सरकार जी० टी० वी० के विरुद्ध क्या कार्रवाई करने का विचार है, और

(घ) क्या संसदीय स्थायी समिति ने भी जी० टी० वी० के प्रसारण और प्रचालन पर असंतोष व्यक्त किया है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय मे राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार नकवी) : (क) से (ग) मैसर्स जी० टी० वी० को अभी तक

भारत से अपलिक करने की अनुमति दी गई है। उन्हें स्वतंत्रता के 50वें वर्ष संबंधी समारोह, मदर टेरेसा की अंत्येष्टि, आम चुनाव, बजट विश्लेषण आदि जैसे विशेष अवसरों पर विदेश संचार निगम लिमिटेड की पूर्ण देख-रेख में केवल अस्थायी रूप से सीधे अपलिकिंग की अनुमति दी गई थी जो कि अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ प्रसार भारतीय की कार्यक्रम एवं विज्ञापन संहिता में शामिल विभिन्न शर्तों के अधीन थी।

(घ) इस मंत्रालय को इस बारे में संसद की संचार संबंधी स्थायी समिति से कोई रिपोर्ट प्राप्त नहीं हुई है।

Shortage of Staff in Doordarshan

2116. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there is a shortage of 5892 posts in various categories of staff in Doordarshan;

(b) if so, whether Government are also aware of the fact that a large number of projects are awaiting commissioning and some operational projects are also facing difficulty for want of staff; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) to (c) The Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance has been requested to have a quick study of the staffing norms of various HPTs/LPTs/VLPTs to work-out their overall staff requirement. On receipt of the recommendations of the SIU, necessary action will be taken for creation/abolition of posts in required categories so that all the transmitters are fully manned and the already completed projects are commissioned at the earliest.

Ban on Advertisements Promoting Alcohol

2117. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of bad effects of advertisements for the promotion of alcohol in television network;