

**Research, Reference and Training  
Division**

6086. SHRIMATI BASANTI  
SARMA:

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHAN-  
DRA JICHKAR:

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

(a) what research activity has been done during the last three years by the Research Reference and Training Division of the Ministry;

(b) how this research is distinct from the research done at the various schools, colleges and Department of Journalism and Mass Communications;

(c) whether any cost benefit analysis of this division has been made; and

(d) if so, whether there is any need for this division?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). The Research, Reference and Training Division functions primarily as an information service agency of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. The Division collects and compiles information from Government & non-Government Services, published matter in newspapers and magazines, academic journals etc. The topics covered include current affairs, economy, tourism, trade mass communication, personalities etc. The National Documentation Centre on Mass Communication (NDCMC), a Wing of the Division, provides information to the Ministry and its Media Units to help in their programmes and publicity campaigns. During the last three years, the Division has prepared 46 backgrounders etc., 116 documentation services by NDCMC and published annual reference books titled "India—A Reference Annual" and "Mass Media in

India", in addition to various other papers sought by the Ministry of different topics from time to time. The research done by the Division is different from the research done in various academic institutions in as much as that the research is not based on primary data collection, but on published sources of information. Further, the output of the Division's activities is intended mainly for official use of the Ministry and its media units.

(c) Since it is an information service agency, without potential for generating revenue, no cost benefit analysis of the Division has been considered necessary.

(d) Does not arise.

**Broadcast Centres of All India Radio**

6087. SHRI V. RAIESHWAR RAO:

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHAN-  
DRA JICHKAR:

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

(a) how many broadcast centres of AIR were there in the country on 1st July, 1991 and how many of them are there as on 1st May, 1995;

(b) how much money has been spent for this increase ;

(c) how much population and area has been covered; and

(d) by when the 100 per cent coverage will be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) On 1st July, 1991, there were 122 centres of All India Radio, and on 1st May, 1995, there were 177 centres of All India Radio in the country.

(b) An amount of Rs. 146 crores has been spent to achieve this expansion of AIR network.