

The House reassembled after lunch at thirtyfour minutes past two of the clock, *The Vice-Chairman* (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) in the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Now we will have further discussion on the working of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Shri V. Narayanasamy will continue his speech.

**Discussion on the Working of the Ministry  
of Information and Broadcasting—  
*Contd.***

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry) : Madam, Vice-Chairman, thank you for giving me this opportunity to continue with the discussion on the Ministry of Information and (Broadcasting).

Yesterday, I was referring to the broadcast of the regional programmes in the Doordarshan and also the local Kendras in various States. From my experience I find that in the production Units in the State Doordarshan Kendras they are totally ignoring the local customs, culture, way of life and the people as far as their education and development in other aspects are concerned. Either they concentrate on the conversation between two groups of people or on the music programme.

I would like to tell the hon. Minister that ever since the production unit had been started in my State about one and a half years back, they have been relaying the programmes which are totally unconnected with our local culture. Everybody knows that we had the French influence and ours is a mixed French and Indian culture. And the Doordarshan people pretty well know that it is a rich culture. It should be given prominence. And in the news programme also, the local news has to be given prominence. But nothing of the sort is being done. Even if the biggest events take place in the State, they are not being covered by Doordarshan so that they may be telecast through the Madras Doordarshan Kendra.

As far as relaying of regional programmes is concerned, I may tell the hon. Minister

that the cultural programmes can be exchanged between the adjoining States and they can be relayed so that the people will feel the oneness and the people will feel that they are a part of India and that they have got a diverse culture. That is a very important aspect which I want the hon. Minister to consider.

Madam, I have a very strong objection to the imposition of Hindi in the Southern States by Doordarshan. It is a burning problem. Day in and day out, from our State and also from the State of Tamil Nadu, all the political parties have been telling that Doordarshan has to concentrate on all the regional languages. And I am very glad that the Ministry have started regional programmes in other stations also, and they have been relaying them in various capitals. But as far as Hindi imposition is concerned, it is the unanimous (view of all the political parties and the people of my State and also the State of Tamil Nadu that when we switch on the Channel-1 of Doordarshan, all the programmes are totally in Hindi except the news which is in English. All the other programmes are in Hindi. And we do not know what conversation is going on in Doordarshan. And our people do not know what is being relayed. That is the state of affairs prevailing. And there is a strong criticism from the people from the Southern region about this. I want the hon. Minister to consider this aspect and give prominence to the local language in their local Doordarshan Kendras. I may tell the hon. Minister that in Northern India, in the national channel, if you relay a programme in a regional language, say, for example, a Tamil programme, if you relay it in Delhi, will the people of Delhi accept it ? So, through Doordarshan, why are you trying to impose Hindi on us, a language which is not known to our people ? And how do they understand the programme if they do not know the language ? So, whether in Delhi or in North India, will the people accept a programme that is relayed in Tamil on a national hook-up ? Therefore, there should be a balanced view about it. You cannot impose Hindi on non-Hindi speaking people through an indirect method. When it was done directly, they opposed it and that was

stopped at the Central level. Then the three-language formula has been accepted. Therefore, in the South, specially in Tamil Nadu, and Pondicherry where 95 per cent of the people speak the Tamil language, your concentration should be on the language 'in which the people speak so that the dissemination, of information or whatever you wanted to, convey through Doordarshan and the Radio will definitely, reach them. Therefore, I want the hon. Minister to consider that aspect and see that slowly this Hindi imposition is reduced. I have another serious complaint that is about insulting one of the big and important film-stars, Shri Sivaji Ganesan. When the International Film Festival was announced, we were happy to know that Shri Sivaji Ganesan will be the Chief Guest. He is a film-star and he has acted in more than 400 films. He is a superstar from our area and we were happy to know that he is going to be the Chief Guest and would inaugurate the International Film Festival. But a controversy was created by West Bengal. I have no quarrel on the person who became the Chief Guest and who inaugurated the Festival. But this should not have been made a political issue and the hon. Minister should not have succumbed to the pressure of West Bengal Government. This is an insult to a superstar, a filmstar who is a recognised filmstar and who is in the field since his childhood and even today at this old age, he is acting in films. He is a classic actor and recognised as such by the world community. He has been insulted by first announcing his name to be the Chief Guest and later on being ignored. I want the hon. Minister to tell us as to who forced him to change the decision. How he was forced to change the decision and who was (responsible for it), I want the hon. Minister to reply to this point.

On the matter of film certification, I have two or three points to make. The hon. lady Member from the BJP also raised this very valid point. Today, as we see, the Film Censor- Board is fully dominated by the film industry and the bureaucrats. Even the Chairman there is from the film industry. I am not making any comments. But I would like to quote from the comments made by one of the members of the Censor Board, Ms Kamala Manekar.

She said that the Board of Film Certification has to meet once in six months but in the last two and a half years it has not met. Only one meeting was held. She again said that in the 28 Censor Boards in the regions are dominated by more than 80 odd, officers and bureaucrats. She also, said that in the Censor Board, the members, are being ignored. This is a serious allegation that has been made. Now the term of the Censor Board is going to be over. I do not know when the Minister is going to, reconstitute it- I would like to suggest to hon. Minister to kindly appoint a especially judge or a renowned journalist, especially a lady member, to be the Chairman and fifty per cent of the members should come from among the women so that you have a balanced Censor Board which can function efficiently without criticism.

There is a lacuna in the Cinematograph Act due to which after the film is censored; even the censored portion is also added to the film later on and exhibited. Hence because the Ministry has no control under the Cinematograph Act after certification of a film. It is for the State Government to take care. The State machinery has to do, it. It has not been done in any of the States. We have not come across any instance where the certified film is shown as such. Actually, the censored portions are also shown in the cinema theatres. Therefore, I want the hon. Minister to see, that the Act is amended. The CB.F.C. should be given more powers. After the certification, if any film is shown which includes the censored portion also, it should be banned. I would request the hon. Minister to react to this when he replies. As I said, in most of the cases, after the certification, they also show those portions which have not been approved by the Censor Board.

Then, Madam, in regard to the telecast of the proceedings of Parliament, Doordarshan has been doing a very good job. The Question Hour is being telecast now. This has been welcomed by the people to the country. I heard the opinion of the people from all walks of life, including the opinion of the people from my constituency. They appreciate it. This is because, through this, they understand the functioning of Parliament; they come to

know about the contribution of the Members of their respective constituencies.

Here, I would like to point out that in the Western countries, the proceedings of Parliament are telecast live. I know the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is fully geared to meet all the challenges under the dynamic leadership of the hon. Minister, with the full support of our hon. Prime Minister. I hope he would definitely consider my demand. It is that the hon. Minister should see that the proceedings of Parliament are telecast live; the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha proceedings should be telecast live, in alternate weeks. This would help the people in knowing as to what is going on in Parliament, how the discussions are being held and how the Members of Parliament are functioning. You talk about transparency. You talk about openness. Therefore, in this field also, you should do it so that the people would be able to understand as to how the Parliament is functioning.

Another point I would like to make here is that there should be a Channel which should telecast entertainment-cum-news programmes round-the-clock; twenty-four hours. This is very important. Today, people appreciate the B.B.C. programmes. They welcome these programmes; particularly, the B.B.C. News. That is why I say that there should be continuous entertainment-cum-news programmes through a separate Doordarshan Channel. Of course, the hon. Minister would say : 'I do not have funds'. I accept it. This is the concern of the Standing Committee also. The Standing Committee has submitted a report that as far as this Ministry is concerned, which is growing, which has an ambitious programme of expansion and modernisation, it should be supported with more funds. It is because this Ministry has not only to expand, has not only to modernise; it had also to meet the challenges of the Western media. This is another aspect. Therefore for improving the programmes and for the purpose of having more stations, I would request the hon. Finance Minister that he should 'give more funds to this Ministry so that the expansion and modernisation programmes could be taken up and" implemented smoothly.

Then, there is need for more Category 'C and 'D' posts. I do agree with the hon. Finance Minister when he talks about the 5 per cent and 10 per cent cut in expenditure. But 'as far as Category 'C and 'D' posts are concerned, there should not be any ban. The ban has been there for several years. On the one hand, we want improvement, we want efficiency, we want performance, we want modernisation; we want everything. At the same time, we are not giving the full complement for the purpose of meeting the various challenges. Therefore, I am one with the hon. Minister. I want the hon. Finance Minister to sanction additional posts, at least, as far as Category 'C and 'D' posts are concerned so that the Information and Broadcasting Ministry would be able to achieve what is expected of it.

As far as the achievements of the Ministry are concerned, I am very glad to note that within a short period of three years, about 13 new broadcasting stations of All India Radio were opened. These were of various capacities.

Madam, various Doordarshan Kendras have been opened in the rural areas. That is the achievement of this Ministry and also of the Government of India. I spoke about the achievements of this Government yesterday, and I would like to repeat it today. They have opened a total of six channels, thus bringing to the viewers sports, programmes, regional language programmes and commercial programmes through the Metro channel, the national channel and the four newly opened channels. That was the commitment made by the hon. Minister on the floor of the House, and he has fulfilled that commitment by dedication and with the cooperation of all the people working in his Ministry.

Madam, as far as the Films Division is concerned, though I have heard some criticism about the Films Division and the documentaries made by them, still they have an achievement, achievement in the sense that they produced 83 documentaries on software and also several news magazines. One should not ignore or forget them.

As far as the Institute of Mass Communication is concerned one centre for a post-graduate diploma course in journalism has been opened in Orissa, in the constituency of the hon. (Minister, in August 1993. This is a very important development which will give journalism a scientific approach. We find that the field of journalism is growing in a big way in our country. The press being considered the fourth estate of our democracy, better training should be given in journalism so that its quality will improve.

Through public activities like music programmes, *Sadbhavana Samarohs* and other programmes on communal harmony and national integration, this Ministry has been doing a very good job and making people aware that they are all together! as Indians and is bringing the people closer. I know it because the cultural programmes that are organised in my State are very good and they have been acting as, kind of, get-togethers for people from various communities.

As far as allocation of funds for Doordarshan is concerned, though it requires more than Rs. 700 crores, only Rs. 300 crores have been provided in this year's budget by the Finance Minister. Though I have made a criticism as far as the functioning of the Doordarshan is concerned, here I would like to support the hon. Minister because, without adequate funds how can efficiency be there and how can challenges be met? Therefore, in this House I request the hon. Minister of Finance that bigger allocations should be made for Doordarshan so that they will be able to function efficiently and effectively.

Coming to my State, I have two or three important points which I have to submit to the hon. Minister. One is about Karaikal near Tanjore, where an FM station is being made ready, which has to be opened. I am grateful to the hon. Minister for taking personal interest to see that the station is built there for the relay of programmes. Various Doordarshan Kendras, various production units

and various AIR stations were opened within a short period of three years. Also, some AIR stations have been upgraded. When Mr. Panja was the Minister for Information and Broadcasting, and when he visited my State once I personally told him that in my State the AIR was having only a 1-KV station which needed upgradation. It is a model AIR station which is giving out very good programmes which not only the people of Pondicherry but the people of Tamil Nadu also listen to. That particular station has to be upgraded into a 10-KV station. I told the Minister about this. I gave a letter also to him. I would like to know his response to it.

Madam, there is a very heavy demand from the people of Karaikal region. We have made this demand in this House. We have requested the Minister several times about this. The regional programmes being telecast from Madras go to the entire area of Tamil Nadu. These are seen by the people of Pondicherry and also Karaikal near the Thanjavur District. There is a low-power transmitter which covers only 5 km. It has no facility for relaying the Madras regional programmes to the people of my State. They have been demanding for a long time that these programmes should be relayed in my State. I wrote a letter to the hon. Minister also. I would like to know his response to it.

Finally, I would like to say that this Ministry needs the support of the Government and especially from Members of Parliament. When it is a question of meeting the challenges from the Western World, I support the hon. Minister, and I want the entire House to support him for the purpose of preserving our culture and for the purpose of preserving our identity.

Madam, I would like to submit that private transmissions are coming up. When we speak of an open-sky policy, a lot of vulgar and obscene programmes are being shown. There is no need of mentioning about the Star TV. I would like to submit that the Jain TV has come up. I think this is owned by one of the former Members of this House. When the programmes are telecast in the name and

style of "Right and Wrong", obscene films are being shown. That is my complaint. In fact, I have asked the Minister to have a regulation under which all such programmes being telecast could be stopped because it goes against our culture, it goes against our identity and it goes against Indian ethos.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN (Tamil Nadu) : The Doordarshan, Bhopal, showed a naked woman under operation, and there was a hue and cry.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Swaminathan, when your turn comes, you may mention about it. Your name is there in the list. What is there to intervene now ? You mention it in your turn.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Madam, therefore, I want the hon. Minister to take action. I know that the Minister will say that there is no regulation. I don't want that reply from the Government. I want the hon. Minister to maintain our culture and identity. No such programmes should be telecast either by the Doordarshan or the Jain TV. My complaint is that it is being telecast daily by the Jain TV during night. This has to be stopped. I want the Minister's assurance that he would take steps in this regard.

With these words, Madam, I congratulate the hon. Minister for having taken all possible steps to improve the efficiency of the Department and the Ministry. I expect the Minister to do more. I want the Finance Minister to support him in the process.

Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. I. K. Gujral not present. Mrs. Sarala Maheshwari.

**श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी (एडिचम बंगाल) :** माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, लगभग 3 वर्षों बाद हम एक बार फिर इसी सदन में सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के कार्यक्रम पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं। आज से 3 वर्ष पहले जब हम इसी सदन में इस विभाग के कार्य पर चर्चा कर रहे थे तो अपनी पार्टी की ओर से मुझे इस मंत्रालय पर बोलने का दायित्व

होगा कि इस विभाग के मंत्री थे श्री अंजीत पंजा। उन्होंने नया-नया ही कार्यभार संभाला था चूँकि कुछ ही महीनों पहले नयी सरकार भी आई थी और इस नयी सरकार के आने के साथ ही नयी आर्थिक नीति का दौर शुरू हुआ था और इस नयी आर्थिक नीति के सम्मोहन में हमारे उस समय के सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री श्री अंजीत पंजा जी यदा-कदा प्रसार भारती के बारे में बात ज़रूर किया करते थे लेकिन उनका सारा का सारा जोर रेडियो और दूरदर्शन के निजीकरण पर ही लगा हुआ था।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, उस समय इस विभाग के कार्यक्रम पर बोलते हुए मैंने यह टिप्पणी की थी कि हम एक ऐसे विभाग के कार्यक्रम पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं जिस विभाग ने अपनी मौत की सजा की दरखास्त की है और मैंने उस समय प्रसिद्ध कवि श्री टी. एस. इलियट की पंक्तियों को उद्धृत करते हुए कहा था कि—

"The clock has stopped in the dark"

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, आज तीन वर्ष बाद हम देख रहे हैं कि विभाग के मंत्री बदल चुके हैं लेकिन स्थिति क्या है, इस की ओर मैं संकेत करना चाहती हूँ। तीन वर्ष पहले जिस विभाग के बारे में मैंने यह कहा था कि इस विभाग ने अपनी मौत की सजा की दरखास्त की है, आज तीन वर्ष बाद मैं उन शब्दों में अपने इन शब्दों को जोड़ना चाहती हूँ कि आज इस विभाग की मौत की घंटिया बजने लगी हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, यह मौत कितनी इच्छा मृत्यु है, कितनी स्वाभाविक मृत्यु है, इस पर तो मैं कोई टिप्पणी करना नहीं चाहती लेकिन इतना निश्चित रूप से कहना चाहती हूँ कि हमारी सरकार की आर्थिक और सामाजिक नीतियों की जो दशा और दिशा है उन को देखते हुए इतना अवश्य कहा जा सकता है कि हमारा यह विभाग अपने पूर्वकीर्तिवत् रूप में उठि रह सकता जिस की कल्पना प्रसार भारती के रूप में स्वीकार हुई।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं इस मंत्रालय के सचिव की ओर बढ़ते हुए कदमों की ओर इशारा कर रही हूँ तो मैं यह बात महज रोमांच पैदा करने के लिए नहीं कह रही हूँ बल्कि बड़े आधार के साथ इस बात को रखना चाहती हूँ, बहुत तकसंगत तर्क मेरे पास है इस बात को कहने के लिए कि क्या दिशा रही है हमारे इस मंत्रालय की। एक तरफ तो हम देख रहे हैं कि हमारे इस मंत्रालय की ओर से केबल टी.वी. रेगुलेट करने के लिए केबल टेलिविजन रेगुलेशन बिल लाया जाता है और दूसरी तरफ उद्योग मंत्रालय की ओर से केबल टी.वी. को लघु उद्योग का दर्जा दिया जाता है। यही हालत प्रिंट मीडिया के क्षेत्र में भी है। हमारे मंत्री महोदय हालाँकि लगातार ऐलान कर रहे हैं कि हम प्रिंट मीडिया के क्षेत्र में विदेशी एजेंसियों को नहीं आने देंगे लेकिन उस समय भी हमारे प्रेस रजिस्ट्रार को धत्ता लगाकर किस तरह से विश्व-विख्यात फाइनेंसल टाइम्स ने अपना ट्रेड मार्क का रजिस्ट्रेशन करवा लिया है? इस का मतलब यह है कि हमारा सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय जिस केबल टी.वी. को सूचना प्रसारण मंत्रालय का एक अंग मानता है, उसे गेट टी यूए टी में उद्योग का दर्जा दे दिया जाता है। हमारे मंत्री महोदय उसे अखबार समझते हैं, लेकिन आज की माध्यमताओं के अनुसार वह अखबार नहीं, महज एक उपभोक्ता सामग्री है। तंबी के साथ किंग गुरु से हमारे तमाम स्थापित मासिक मूल्यों को सिर के बल खड़ा किया जा रहा है, यह इस से स्पष्ट है।

महोदया, सूचना आज हमारे ज्ञान की, हमारी जानकारी की चीज नहीं रह गई है, आज वह कमोडिटी की तस् बन कर रह गई है। दिकाल माल, अपने आप में पैसे वाली मत्तफे की शर्त बन कर रह गई है। इसलिए मैं सदन को यह बताना चाहती हूँ और मंत्री महोदय को मैं इंगित करना चाहती हूँ कि किस तरह से उन का भविष्य सन्दर्भ में डालकर मिलाया जा रहा है।

महोदया, जापान में रेडियो और टी.वी. पोस्ट एंड टेलिकम्यूनिकेशंस में शामिल कर लिए गए थे। लेकिन आज उन का यह

मंत्रालय 21वीं शदी का मंत्रालय अपने आप को कहता है। इस नये मंत्रालय का क्या कहना है, इस की दलील मैं आप को जापान के जर्नल आफ ट्रेड एंड इंडस्ट्री ने जो कुछ कहा है, उस से पढ़कर सुनाना चाहती हूँ—

"A sophisticated information-oriented society, in which information circulates smoothly thanks to telecommunication, is not complete in itself. When information flows, the people, goods and money also flow. When information about a product is disseminated, as in advertising, people go and buy it. The flow of information is accompanied by physical flow and cash flow."

यानी अब टेलीविजन सिर्फ सूचना और संस्कृति के प्रवाह का नहीं यह नवब काँड़ी (केश पलों) का बहुत बड़ा साधन है और हमारी सरकार जिस पूँजीवादी समाज के मान मूल्यों से बंधी हुई है उसमें यह नगद काँड़ी का प्रवाह ही सबसे पवित्र प्रवाह है। हम यह जानते हैं कि इस प्रवाह के रास्ते में आने वाली किसी भी बाधा को अब स्वीकार नहीं किया जायेगा क्योंकि पूँजीपति की आंख हमेशा मत्तफे के स्रोत की ओर लगी रहती है। इसलिए मेरा यह मानना है कि सूचना और प्रसारण विभाग, आप कितनी ही कोशिश करें, अब यह अपने पुराने विभाग में नहीं रह सकता है। मैं खासकर मंत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाना चाहूँगी कि हाल ही में हमारी स्टैंडिंग कमेटियाँ बनी हैं उनमें किस तरह से सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय का विलय अपने स्तर पर कम्प्यूनिकेशंस में यानी संचार मंत्रालय में कर दिया गया है। मंत्री जी वह दिन दूर नहीं जब आपके विभाग में ताला लग जायेगा। जो 1985 में जापान में हुआ था कब हम उस दिशा की ओर चले जायेंगे जागद हमारे मंत्री महोदय को पता नहीं है लेकिन उनके विभाग में काम करने वाले नौकरशाहों को ज़रूर पता होगा कि हमारी सरकार की दिशा कौन सी होगी, किस रास्ते पर हमें आगे बढ़ना है। इसलिए प्रसार-भारती में हमारी सरकार की जो उदासीनता है वह उदासीनता भी, मैं जिस बात को कह रही हूँ वह इस बात का एक

और बड़ा प्रभाव है कि अब हमारा रेडियो और दूरदर्शन उस रूप में कतई नहीं रह सकता, हमारा सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय उस रूप में कतई नहीं रह सकता जिस रूप में हमने इसकी परिकल्पना की थी। आप इस बात को अच्छी तरह से जानती हैं कि किसी भी राष्ट्र और समाज की नीतिकलाओं के निर्धारण में इस प्रकार के शक्तिशाली जन-माध्यमों की कितनी अहम भूमिका होती है, कितनी शक्तिशाली भूमिका होती है, लेकिन इन जन प्रचार माध्यमों में इसकी सकारात्मक भूमिका की हमारी सरकार को कोई चिंता नहीं है, क्योंकि उसे तो बाजार की अंधी शक्तियों के सहारे चलना है और सरकार यह निर्णय ले चुकी है। इसीलिए खुद को बाजार की अंधी शक्तियों के भरोसे छोड़ देने वाली हमारी सरकार, आज जिस मार्केट इकोनोमी की तरफ बढ़ रही है, जिस ग्लोबल इंटिग्रेशन का नारा दे रही है, जिस वैश्वीकरण की खासियत क्या है, ऑनलिन टाइपलर के शब्दों में कहना चाहेंगी। ऑनलिन टाइपलर जिसने सूचना को सबसे बड़ा शक्ति का स्रोत बताया है वह सूचना आज किस ओर जा रही है। ऑनलिन टाइपलर ने शब्दों का इस्तेमाल किया था : ग्लोबल प्राइवेट मोनोपोली आफ इंफॉर्मेशन तो आज इस ग्लोबल प्राइवेट मोनोपोली आफ इंफॉर्मेशन का सबसे बड़ा शक्तिशाली स्रोत अगर कोई है तो वह इलेक्ट्रॉनिक माध्यम है। और हमारी सरकार ने जिस तरह से हमारे यहां सर्व मरडक का पलक पावड़े बिछाकर स्वागत किया उससे आसानी से समझ में आ जाता है कि हमारी सरकार की दशा क्या है। इसलिए मैं कहना चाहती हूं कि अब दूरदर्शन अपनी आप में कोई संदेश नहीं स्वयं में एक पण्य तथा पण्यों का उत्पादन का स्रोत, कोमोडीटीज उत्पादन का एक साधन बन गया है। इसी आधार पर कहने वाले आज के युग को माध्यमों का युग कहते हैं। परी मानव सभ्यता और संस्कृति एक भारी उथल-पुथल के बीच से गुजर रही है। ऐसा लगता है कि इस युग में सिर्फ पंजी का संकेन्द्रण ही नहीं हो रहा है इस युग में हम देख रहे हैं कि संस्कृति का भी संकेन्द्रण हो रहा है। मैं यह नहीं कहती कि हमारे मंत्री जी कहेंगे आप बहुत पुरानी हैं आपको

समझ में क्यों नहीं आ रहा है कि समाज किस तरफ जा रहा है समाज किस ओर आगे बढ़ रहा है . . .

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND  
BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH  
DEO) : I did not say that.

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी : धन्यवाद आपका। मैं यह कहना चाहती हूं कि जो परिवर्तन हो रहे हैं उन परिवर्तनों से हम अछूती रह सकते हैं, खुद को अलग रख सकते हैं लेकिन इसका अर्थ यह तो नहीं है जो कुछ घट रहा है इसके हम नियति मान कर उसके भूक भोक्ता बन कर रह जाएं। इसलिए आधुनिकता की ओर भागते हुए हमारे समाज में यह माध्यम कौन सी भूमिका निभा रहा है इसके बारे में आपको ध्यान होगा कि चंद दिनों पहले सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने एक फैसला सुनाया था। सुप्रीम कोर्ट के उस फैसले को मैं यहां इस सदन में उद्धृत करना चाहूंगी।

"There cannot be a dispute that modernisation is an important factor and needed very much in a developing country.

But this makes us ponder whether the voyage we have undertaken on the basis of the principles enshrined in the Constitution is carried on right lines. For, it is not the distance we have travelled that matters, but it's the direction in which we have travelled what really matters. Are we merely moving or truly advancing ? Are we merely changing or effectively progressing... T"

महोदया, सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने यह सवाल उठाया और इसलिए यह जरूरी है कि हम परिवर्तन की इस दशा और दिशा को समझें। आज सच्चाई यह है कि जिस विकास की हम चर्चा कर रहे हैं, जिस परिवर्तन पर हम चर्चा कर रहे हैं उस विकास और परिवर्तन की दिशा पर विश्व में एक जैसी नहीं है। मसलन यदि जापान ने 1985 में ही अपने सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय का विलय अपने संचार

विभाग में कर दिया तो आज एक दशक बाद हम उस दबाव को महसूस कर रहे हैं। इसी तरह से भारत की तरह समूचे विकासशील देश विकसित देशों की तकनीकी के मामले में चार-पांच पीढ़ी पीछे चल रहे हैं। माध्यमों के बारे में कमोबेश एक ही स्थिति है। ऐसी स्थिति में यह सच है कि पिछड़ी हुई तकनीक से चिपके रहना यह हमारी गरीबी और पिछड़ेपन का कारण हो सकता है। ऐसे में अगर हम इन माध्यमों का सूक्ष्मब्रूकर, समस-ब्रूकर इस्तेमाल करें तो हमारा पिछड़ापन हमारे लिये वरदान सिद्ध हो सकता है। इन माध्यमों से जो विकृतियां पश्चिमी देशों में आयी हैं उन विकृतियों से हम खुद को बचा सकते हैं। इसलिये उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं यह कहना चाहूँगी कि हमारा यह मंत्रालय, जो यह परिवर्तन की दिशा है उसको किस तरह से समझ रहा है। महोदया, उसकी नजर दुनिया के पैमाने पर मनुष्यता को अब तक जो अनुभव हो चुके हैं उन्हें अच्छी तरह समझ-बुझ कर आगे बढ़ने की है या खुद को इस अंधी दौड़ में सिर्फ धक्का देना है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं खुद को दूरदर्शन पर ही केंद्रित करना चाहूँगी क्योंकि जैसा आपने कहा हमारे इस विभाग का मूल केंद्र बिन्दु दूरदर्शन हो गया है और बाकी सारे के सारे इसके अंग गौण बनकर रह गये हैं। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, पिछले दिनों आपको मालूम है कि इस मंत्रालय की ओर से एक राष्ट्रीय माध्यम नीति का मसविदा तैयार किया गया था। मुझे यह कहते हुए बहुत दुःख होता है कि जिस युग को हम माध्यमों का युग कहते हैं, उस युग में राष्ट्रीय माध्यम नीति के बारे में मंत्रालय की ओर से जो मसविदा पेश किया किया गया था वह 22 पृष्ठों का था और एक बहुत ही उधली-समझ और छिछली जानकारी वाला बिथड़ा सा मालेख था। उस पर मस-विदा में कहीं पर भी माध्यमों के विस्फोट से दुनिया में सामाजिक संबंधों में जो परिवर्तन आए हैं उन अनुभवों की कतई चर्चा नहीं थी। उस एक मात्र यही चिंता जाहिर की गयी कि किस प्रकार दूरदर्शन को अधिक से अधिक आय का स्रोत बनाया जाए और उसकी आय में संधे लगाने वाले विदेशी सैटेलाइट चैनलों से किस प्रकार सुपरहिट मुकाबला किया जाये। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, यह सुपरहिट मुकाबला

किस तरह से किया गया? विदेशी अप-संस्कृति से सुपरहिट मुकाबला देशी अप-सं-कृति के जरिये से करने की भद्दी कोशिशों के रूप में सामने आया और उस भद्दी कोशिश का नतीजा एयर टाइम कमिटी की असामयिक मौत के रूप में सामने आया।... (समय की घंटी)... उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं थोड़ा सा और निवेदन करना चाहूँगी।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती सुचमा स्वराज) :**  
आपका समय समाप्त हो गया है। आप बोलिये, मैं आपको समय दूँगी। फिर भी कन्डलूड करने की तरफ बढ़िये।

**श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी :** उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं यह बात कहना चाहती हूँ कि जो एयर टाइम कमिटी जी.एस. देवधर की अध्यक्षता में बनायी गयी थी उसका उद्देश्य यह था कि रैंडो के एफ एम बैंड तथा दूरदर्शन के मेट्रो चैनल के कार्यक्रमों का वह दिशा-निर्देश करे। लेकिन जब देवधर कमिटी ने अपना काम करना शुरू किया तो मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों के साथ उनका विरोध शुरू हो गया। क्योंकि मंत्रालय की ओर से उन्हें यह हिदायत दी गयी कि वह रैंडो के एफ एम बैंड तथा दूरदर्शन के मेट्रो चैनल से उसी प्रकार के कार्यक्रमों के प्रसारण की विधि तैयार करें, जिस प्रकार के कार्यक्रम सैटेलाइट टी.वी. तथा अन्य विदेशी चैनलों से प्रसारित होते हैं। एयर टाइम कमिटी में हमारे देश की अनेक प्रतिभाएं थी जिन्होंने इस क्षेत्र में काम किया था। उनसे यह कहा गया कि आप नकलबी बंदरों की तरह काम करें। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं कहना चाहूँगी कि सरकार का यह छिपकले भारतीय रैंडो या दूरदर्शन को स्वरूप को तैयार करने का नहीं था। उसकी सारी की सारी चिन्ता दूरदर्शन से होने वाली आय पर केंद्रित थी। दूरदर्शन के चैनलों से विदेशी चैनलों के कार्यक्रमों को प्रसारित करने की मांग कर के सरकार ने ऐसी स्थिति पैदा कर दी कि अंत में इस देवधर कमिटी को इस्तीफा देने को मजबूर होना पड़ा। वास्तविक स्थिति यह है कि मंत्रालय की ओर से बड़े उत्साह के साथ लगातार घोषणाएं की जा रही हैं कि हम 24 चैनल शुरू करेंगे, 25 चैनल शुरू कर देंगे। मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि आप 24 चैनल शुरू करिये, 25 चैनल शुरू



करिये लेकिन आपकी क्षमता है ? क्या आप साफ्टवेयर बनाने में सक्षम हैं ? आप यह देख रहे हैं कि इनकी क्षमता तो एक दो चैनलों को पूरा करने की भी नहीं है और यह 24-25 चैनल शुरू करने की बात कर रहे हैं । इससे हमें क्या कि आपके तमाम चैनलों से विदेशी रेडीमेड कार्यक्रमों को फिल्ली रेडीमेड कार्यक्रमों को भरती किया जाएगा फिर आप यह कहेंगे कि हम अपने देश की सार्वभौमिकता की रक्षा करेंगे । मैं जिस सवाल को उठाना चाह रही थी, यह यह है कि एक तरफ तो हमारे ऊपर विदेशी दबाव है और दूसरी तरफ जिस विदेशी दबाव की चर्चा आपने भी की किस तरह हमारे देश के कानूनों को धत्ता बता कर एक विदेशी कम्पनी हीरो कप टूनामेंट का प्रसारण करके चली गई । हमारे मंत्री महीन्द्र ने ठीक ध्यान आकर्षित किया कि हमारी सार्वभौमिकता का प्रश्न है और हम लोगों ने भी चिन्ता व्यक्त की लेकिन क्या हुआ ? मंत्रालय कुछ नहीं कर सका । देश को दूसरे किसी कानून की आड़ में एक विदेशी कम्पनी प्रसारण कर के चली गई । आज मैं यह कहते हुए बड़ा दुःख होता है कि आज हमारे अपने मंत्रालय में भी इस बात पर चर्चा की जा रही है कि हमारे देश के सेंट्रलाइज्ड पर किस तरह विदेशी कम्पनियों को ट्रांसपॉन्डर की सुविधा दी जाए । कहां रह जाएगी हमारी सार्वभौमिकता, कहां रह जाएगी हमारी संप्रभुता ? इसलिए मैं यह कहना चाहूंगी कि आज हमारे पास जो साधन उपलब्ध हैं, उन साधनों की भी हम सही रूप में इस्तेमाल नहीं कर पा रहे हैं, उनका भी विरूपीकरण किया जा रहा है । इसलिए जब इन माध्यमों को लाने की बात हुई थी तब हमारे देश के प्रधानमंत्री पंडित जवाहर लाल नेहरू ने यह आशंका व्यक्त की थी, यह भय जाहिर किया था कि इस तरह का खर्चीला माध्यम हमारे जैसे गरीब देश में नव धनिकों के खेल की वस्तु बन जाएगा । आप देख रहे हैं कि पंडित जवाहर लाल नेहरू की आशंका निराकार साबित नहीं हुई । पश्चिम में जिस समय टेलीविजन का विस्तार हुआ था, उस समय पश्चिम समृद्धि की उंचाई को पार कर चुका था लेकिन हमारे देश की वस्तुस्थिति क्या है । हम उस उंचाई से बहुत पीछे हैं । आधुनिक तकनीकी क्षेत्र में हम लैट-कमर्स हैं । इसलिए यह इलेक्ट्रॉनिक माध्यम

हमारे अपने स्वयं के समाज की जरूरतों की उपज नहीं है और जो हमारे स्वयं के अन्दर से उपजता नहीं है, जो हमारी स्वयं की जरूरत न हो, उसका इस्तेमाल हमें बहुत सावधानी से करना चाहिये अन्यथा हमारी स्थिति भस्मासुर की तरह होगी । मैं जिस बात की ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहती हूँ और मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहती हूँ वह यह है कि यह माध्यम तभी फलदायी हो सकती है जब इसकी चर्चा वास्तविक अर्थों में भारतीय हो, जब यह माध्यम उदीयमान भारत की सही तस्वीर को पेश करने के काबिल हो जाए । इसलिए उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, महात्मा गांधी ने जो कहा था, मैं उद्धृत करना चाहती हूँ—

"No country can become a nation by producing a race of imitators. I want to write many new things but they should all be written on the Indian slate."

भारतीय पट्टी पर उनकी लिखा जाना चाहिये, भारत की जड़ें गहरी होनी चाहिये । हमारे देश की वस्तुस्थिति से उनकी जुड़ा होना चाहिये । इसीलिए जरूरी है कि दूरदर्शन का पूरा लोका आत्मकोन्द्रित तथा एकपक्षीय ठांचा नहीं होना चाहिये । यह सिर्फ प्रस्तुतकर्ता नहीं बल्कि संवादकर्ता होना चाहिए । उज्जयिनी पश्चिमी संस्कृति के रंग में रंगे हुए कार्यक्रम दिखा कर आप हमारी जनता को सम्मोहित तो कर सकते हैं लेकिन उनके जरिये आप हमारी जनता के साथ कभी भी रागात्मक संबंध स्थापित नहीं कर सकती हैं । इसलिए अगर दूरदर्शन को संवादमूलक बनाना चाहते हैं तो उसका तरीका यह है कि व हमारे वास्तविक जीवन के सब से अधिक निकट हो, वह दर्शकों का सिर्फ शिक्षक नहीं शिष्य भी होना चाहिये । उस समाज के जीवन से सीखना चाहिये । इसलिए मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगी, आप भी जानती हैं कि विषय बहुत संबोधनशील है, कुछ समय आप दें दें...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज) : समाप्त करिये सरला जी । मैंने आपको 8-9 मिनट फालतू दे दिये हैं ।

**श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी :** पांच-सात मिनट में समाप्त कर रही हूँ। कुछ दिन पहले मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय की ओर से संस्कृति का एक मसविदा तैयार किया गया था हालाँकि उस संस्कृतिक मसविदे से मैं पूरी तरह से सहमत नहीं हूँ लेकिन इस बात की आवश्यकता जरूर महसूस करती हूँ कि सरकार की एक सांस्कृतिक नीति होनी चाहिए और इस सांस्कृतिक नीति को हमारी सरकार को सभी माध्यमों के लिए, सभी विभागों के लिए एक दिशा निर्देश नीति के रूप में कार्य करना चाहिए ताकि हमारे देश में ऐसी स्थिति न आये कि फिर कोई विदेशी प्रसारण कम्पनी हमारे देश के कानूनों का उल्लंघन करके अपलिफ्टिंग की सुविधा ले ले या प्रसारण की सुविधा ले ले, या हमारे देश में रेजिस्ट्रार को धत्ता बताकर कोई अलवार ट्रेड कानून के अंतर्गत रेजिस्ट्रेशन करवा ले। जब हम इन माध्यमों की बात करते हैं तो ये माध्यम तभी हमारे देश के विकास में हमारे देश की संस्कृति में एक सही और सकारात्मक भूमिका निभा सकते हैं जब इनकी जड़ हमारे देश की संस्कृति के साथ जुड़ी हों। एक सुप्रसिद्ध इतिहासकार, मानव सभ्यता के बहुत बड़े इतिहासकार, हुए हैं, जे. डी. बरनाल्ड उन्होंने कहा था कि—

"Science and technology, without culture, open the door for entry into a dehumanised, meaningless universe commanded by Robots."

आप जानती होंगी कि बरनाल्ड की बात किस तरह आज हमारे सामने सही रूप में उतर रही है... (समय की घंटी) आप तो घंटी बजा रही हैं हालाँकि मैं अभी पूरा नहीं कर पाई हूँ। मैं सिर्फ आपसे इतना कहना चाहती हूँ...

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज) :** लगभग दूना समय दिया है। अब समाप्त करिये।

**श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी :** जब हम ऐसे संवेदनशील विषय पर विचार करते हैं तो हमें इस बात को जरूर मद्देनजर रखना चाहिए कि हमारे मंत्रालय ने विभिन्न कमेटीयों तैयार की हैं, आपको मालूम है कि चन्दा कमेटी से

लेकर बगीच कमेटी और पी.सी. जोशी कमेटी तक है और सारी की सारी कमेटीयों ने इन प्रसार माध्यमों के बारे में एक परिप्रेक्ष्य हमारे सामने रखा है कि इनका परिप्रेक्ष्य क्या होना चाहिए। लेकिन मुझे कहते हुए अफसोस होता है कि हमारे इस मंत्रालय के सामने कोई परिप्रेक्ष्य नहीं है। प्रसार भारती के रूप में जो परिप्रेक्ष्य आया था उस परिप्रेक्ष्य से अलग हटकर हमारा यह विभाग आज बहुत-राष्ट्रीय कम्पनियों की रोद में बैठ गया है। इसके चलते हम अपनी सांस्कृतिक जड़ों से दूर होते जा रहे हैं और इन सांस्कृतिक जड़ों से दूर होने का नतीजा क्या होता है, सिर्फ इस ओर मैं आपको ध्यान आकर्षित करवाना चाहती हूँ कि पी.सी. जोशी ने कहा था—

"The drive towards a rootless Modernity has always produced a cultural backlash in the form of religious fundamentalism and cultural revivalism. The modernisers alienated from tradition are the strongest allies of fundamentalists and revivalists."

यह आज का हमारा यथार्थ है इसलिए उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं सिर्फ इतना कहना चाहती हूँ बटोल्ड बुक्थ के शब्दों में कि साधनों से यह अवश्य पूछा जाना चाहिए कि उनके उद्देश्य क्या हैं। वे किसके लिए हैं, और अगर हमारा मंत्रालय विदेशियों की झूठा पर अपनी अस्मिता को खत्म नहीं करना चाहता है, विदेशियों द्वारा फेंकी सूठन पर हमारे समाज को गुमराह नहीं करना चाहता है और इसे एक सही दिशा देना चाहता है तो वह प्रसार भारती की दिशा है और उस दिशा की ओर बढ़ने की जरूरत है अन्यथा इस मंत्रालय में ताले लगने में कोई देर नहीं है।

**श्री विश्वम्भर नाथ पांडे (नाम निर्दिष्ट) :** महोदया, सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय की 12 भुजाएँ हैं—अल इंडिया रेडियो, दूर-दर्शन, फिल्म, प्रेस इन्फार्मेशन ब्यूरो, न्यूज-पेपर्स फार इंडिया, पब्लिकेशन डिवीजन, फील्ड पब्लिसिटी, एडवर्टाइजिंग एण्ड विजुअल पब्लिसिटी, फोटो डिवीजन, सांग एण्ड

डूमा डिपोजन, रिसर्च एण्ड रेफरेंस डिपोजन और मास कम्यूनिकेशन । अपनी इन 12 भूजाओं से वे देश के मानस को, देश के मस्तिष्क को दिशा देते हैं और उन्हें प्रेरणा देते हैं । मेरा इसके दो विभागों से काफी पुराना संबंध रहा है एक टाकर की हॉसिंगत रु, रनिंग कमन्टेंटर् की हॉसियत से । ऐसे मोके आये जब मुझे रनिंग कमेट्री करनी पड़ी—खुदचंद के आगमन पर, चाउ एन लाई के आगमन पर, गांधी जी के अस्थि वि-सर्जन के मोके पर, सरदार पटेल के मोके पर और बहुत से सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रमों में जो दूरदर्शन ने आयोजित किये उनमें मुझ बोलने का मौका मिला, अपनी बात कहने का मौका मिला । मैंने देखा, शुरू से इसकी इति-हास को अगर आप लीजिए । हमारा संगीत, हमारी संस्कृति, हमारे नृत्य ये सारे के सारे ऐसी स्थिति में हो गए थे, राजाओं का संरक्षण खत्म हो गया था । राजा खुद खत्म हो गए थे ताल्लुकदार खत्म हो गए थे, इसलिए उनका संरक्षण भी चला गया था । जितने घराने थे वे घराने सब बंहेंशी की हालत में आ गए थे, जैसे उनका कोई पुरसाने हाल नहीं है । तो उस सब को अगर किसी ने फिर से चेतना दी तो वह इस मंत्रालय ने चेतना दी । आकाश-वाणी के द्वारा, दूरदर्शन के द्वारा उन्हें सम्मानित किया, उनकी कला को पूर्ण विक-सित होने का अवसर दिया और उन्हें एना महसूस हुआ कि राजे-महाराजे चले गए, ताल्लुकदार चले गए, फिर भी यह मंत्रालय है जो देश की संस्कृति को, देश की कला को, देश के संगीत को, देश के नृत्य को जीवित रख रहा है । इसमें जैसा कि होना चाहिए था, इसमें जो फिल्म सेंसर बोर्ड है वह सही तरीके से फिल्मों का सेंसर नहीं कर सका । क्या चाहते हैं खाली मनोरंजन हों? मनोरंजन में केवल मार-पीट हों, मनोरंजन में हिंसा हो, मनोरंजन में सेक्स हो ? अगर यही है तब तो मैं समझता हूँ कि एक गलत धारा देश में चली है । पश्चिम की संस्कृति दूसरे तरह की है, हमारी संस्कृति एक दूसरे तरह की है । हमें संयम में, हमारी संस्कृति संयम को ही निशेध महत्व देनी है । इस दृष्टि से अगर आप देखें तो

मैं समझता हूँ कि बहुत थोड़ी फिल्मों ऐसी हैं, सत्यजीत राय ने एक रास्ता दिखाया और उन्होंने फिल्मों का स्तर बहुत ऊँचा किया । आखिर उसका असर थोड़ा बहुत तो है । मैं कई भाषाओं की फिल्में देखता हूँ । उड़िया को भी मैंने देखा लगातार असमी फिल्मों को देखा, बंगला फिल्मों को देखा । इन फिल्मों के अंदर एक सौम्यता है, जबकि हिन्दी फिल्मों में वह सौम्यता नहीं है । इस-लिए जरूरत इस बात की है कि हमारे सेंसर को थोड़ा सा और कड़ा होना चाहिए और उनमें से ऐसे प्रकरण निकालने चाहिए अलग कर देना चाहिए जो देश के युवा वर्ग को विभ्रम कर सकते हैं और हमारी संस्कृति को डिस्टार्ट कर सकते हैं । मैंडम, तो जैसा मैंने कहा कि भारतीय कला और भारतीय संस्कृति के प्रचार-प्रसार में जब दूरदर्शन का उदय हुआ तो भारतीय कला, साहित्य और संस्कृति को चार चांद लगें । दिचारों के प्रचार-प्रसार में मैंने देखा कि जितनी भी बहसे होती है, डिसकशंस होती है, अब उनका स्तर भी काफी ऊँचा होने लगा है और उसमें से बहुत कुछ आदमी प्राप्त कर सकता है । आकाशवाणी का कितना विस्तार हो गया है ? जब शुरू हुआ उस समय से लेकर आज इतना विस्तार हो गया है कि देश के कोने-कोने में 90 प्रतिशत लोगों तक उसकी पहुंच हो गई है लोग न्यूज के इच्छुक हो गए हैं, भुले हो गए हैं, उन्हें न्यूज चाहिए जिस तरह से भी मिले । हमारे समाचार-पत्र उसे पूरा नहीं कर सकते, क्योंकि उनके नियमित एडिशन होते हैं । सुबह निकल गए, दोपहर को निकल गए, शाम को निकल गए, बाकी रात तक क्या होता है, सबरे क्या होता है, इस दिशा में आकाशवाणी ने काफी स्थूल काम किया है । और ऐसे मोके पर ऐसे समाचार लोगों तक पहुंच-चाए हैं, जोकि दूसरे माध्यम से नहीं पहुंचा सकते थे ।

महांदेश, मैं जरूर चाहता हूँ कि हम कुछ ऐसी तजवीज करें कि तमिल फिल्मों को हिन्दीकरण हो तो बहुत अच्छी बात है और इस दिशा में तो है । हमारे यहां उत्तर भारत में तमिल फिल्में भी दिखायी जाती हैं ।

हमारे पूर्व-वक्ता को शिक्षायत थी कि दक्षिण भारत के लोगों पर जबर्दस्ती हिन्दी थोपी जाती है। मेरा ख्याल है कि ऐसी भावना नहीं आनी चाहिए। हाँ, एक रीशियो हॉन्स चाहिए कि अगर दक्षिण भारत की भाषाओं में हम जो समाचार देते हैं या फिल्में दिखाते हैं या दूसरे कार्यक्रम दिखाते हैं उत्तर भारत में तो उस अनुपात में हमको दक्षिण भारत में भी दिखाना चाहिए। यह एक अनुपात बना लेना चाहिए जिससे कि किसी को यह शिक्षा-यत करने का मौका न मिले कि हमारी चीजों का कोई प्रदर्शन नहीं होता उत्तर भारत में और उत्तर भारत की चीजों का हमारे प्रदेश में बहिर् प्रदर्शन होता है।

महोदया, मुझे मौका मिला है सोवियत रूस के रीडियो से बोलने का, चीन के रीडियो से बोलने का और मुझे मौका मिला है जापान के रीडियो से बोलने का। तो मैंने पाया कि जिनके "रिजिड" वह है, शायद उतने हम नहीं है। मेरी एक स्क्रिप्ट में एक बात आयी जिसमें कि मैंने जिक्र करते हुए थोड़ा सा क्रिटिसाइज किया। "माक्स" का एक पुस्तक में लिखा था कि कलकत्ता से सौ किलोमीटर दूर हरिद्वार है जहाँ कि कोयला होता है। मैंने उनका ध्यान आकर्षित किया कि कलकत्ता से हरिद्वार सौ किलोमीटर नहीं है बल्कि उससे बहुत ज्यादा है और यह गलती है माक्स की। वह "वर्धमान" हो सकता है जोकि शायद 80 किलोमीटर दूर है। तो उन्होंने कहा कि इस विवेचना को प्रसारित मत कीजिए। यह अपनी स्क्रिप्ट में से काट दीजिए। तो इस तरह से जो मान्यताएँ उन्होंने बना ली हैं, उन मान्यताओं के विपरीत वह नहीं जाना चाहते हैं।

महोदया, अब प्रश्न यह है कि हम अपनी संस्कृति की आज कैसे रक्षा कर सकते हैं? उसके कुछ शाश्वत मूल्य हैं। उन शाश्वत मूल्यों को हम कैसे बचाकर रख सकते हैं? हमारी संस्कृति में यह भावना थी कि वह अपने भीतर सब को आत्मसात कर के चलती थी। उसने सभी संस्कृतियों को आत्मसात किया। भारत की संस्कृति ऐसी 21-20RSS/95

संस्कृति है कि जो भी बाहर से आया उसने सब को आत्मसात कर लिया। उसका भारतीयकरण कर लिया जिस तरह से कि गंगा का प्रवाह होता है कि उसके रास्ते में जितनी भी धाराएँ आती हैं, सब उसमें शामिल होती जाती हैं और तब वह महान गंगा बनती है। इसी तरह से हमने भारत की संस्कृति में सब को आत्मसात कर लिया। तो रीडियो और दूरदर्शन के प्रसारण में इस बात का ध्यान रखा जाना चाहिए कि हम कोई ऐसी बात न करें जिससे कि हमारी जो समन्वयात्मक संस्कृति है, हमारी जो विविधता में एकता देखने की संस्कृति है, उसमें कोई अंतर आए या उससे हम अलग हटें।

महोदया, मुझे याद है कि जब यहाँ बोलने वाली फिल्म नहीं बनी थी तब इंटर-नेशनल फिल्म में यहाँ इटली की दनी हुई फिल्म "बायसिकल" को और जापान की दनी हुई एक फिल्म थी "रास-मणि" दोनों को बहिर्द सराहा गया। उनके हिन्दीकरण भी किए गए। तो बाहर की फिल्मों हम न लें, यह भी जरूरी नहीं। हमको लेना चाहिए, जो अच्छी फिल्में हैं। मुझे याद है, बहुत अरसे पहले मैंने एक फिल्म देखी थी, जिसमें नीरो को दर्शाया गया था। नीचे बाध और निशस्त्र आबमी की लड़ाई हो रही थी। एम. पी. थिएटर में। नीरो उसको देख रहा था, एक रेवेरेन पादरी आते हैं। अपना हँट उनके सामने करते हैं कि फोर द एअर आफ द रो। उसको बाधा होती है देखने में, नीरो को। उसको एक थपड़ मारता है, उसका हँट गिर जाता है। गिर जाता है तो फिर उठता है और उठने के बाद अपना हँट सामने कर देता है और कहता है कि 'योर मॅजस्टी, दैट वाज फोर मी, नाउ फोर द एअर'। एक इतनी चमत्कारी हुई चीज थी। इस तरह से हम चुभती हुई चीज बना सकते हैं, हमारे कलाकार बना सकते हैं इस तरह की चीज।

इधर पिछले 40-50 वर्षों में, जबसे आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन का आगमन हुआ है हमारे देश में, तब से हमने बहुत कुछ किया है। जो मरे हुए हमारे नृत्य थे, उनको फिर से संजीवित किया है। अब हमारे नर्तकों को

देखकर सारी दुनिया चकित होती है। हमारी कला को देखकर सारी दुनिया चकित होती है। तो यह एक बहुत बड़ा अहसान है इनका।

प्रसार भारती की बात की जाती है। हमारे बड़े हुए हैं उस समय के प्रसारण मंत्री, वह योजना कामज पर आकर रह गई। जनता सरकार को अधिकार दिया गया कि वह उसकी भूमिका बनाए, लेकिन वह केवल कामजों में रह गई। इसका बावजूद उस पर कोई कार्यक्रम किया ही नहीं गया।

पैसे की बात है, वह भी बहुत जरूरी होता है। हम अभी शिकायत कर रहे हैं कि जितना हमें बजट में प्रावधान करना चाहिए था उसना बजट में प्रावधान नहीं किया गया इस मंत्रालय के लिए या दूरदर्शन के लिए। फिर पैसा कहाँ से आएगा क्योंकि पैसा भी जरूरी है। यह पैसा आता है सीरियल से, जैसे रामायण और महाभारत के सीरियल में बहुत पैसा लोगों ने कमाया, जो क्रिकेट मैच होते हैं उनमें बहुत पैसा मिलता है। इस तरह से भी पैसे का साधन अगर मिलता है तो उसको लेने में कोई बुराई नहीं दिखती। साधन तो होना ही चाहिए इस मंत्रालय को। अगर भारत सरकार का वित्त मंत्रालय थोड़ा पैसा नहीं देता तो फिर उसको पैसा कहीं न कहीं से प्राप्त करना ही है ताकि उसका काम आगे बढ़े। मैं यह देखता हूँ कि काम काफी बढ़ रहा है। कभी पब्लिकेशन डिवाजन ने जो "बिलडर्स आफ मोडर्न इण्डिया" सीरीज निकाली है, वह बहुत अच्छी सीरीज है। इससे हमें अपने देश के नेताओं ने, विविध क्षेत्र के नेताओं ने जो देश की सेवा की, देश को समृद्ध बनाया, देश को उन्नत बनाया, किस तरह से उन्होंने अपना जीवन अर्पित किया, उसकी जानकारी मिलती है और नौजवान लोगों को एक प्रेरणा मिलती है। उसमें जितनी भी जीवनी प्रकाशित हुई है, उन सब से हम प्रेरणा ले सकते हैं और वह प्रेरणा लायक है भी।

अगली बात, मैं यह कहना चाहूँगा कि दूरदर्शन में कच्ची दिखाई जाती है, शायरी और मशहूर भी दिखाए जाते हैं, लेकिन वहाँ

उर्दू को जो दर्जा मिलना चाहिए और भाषाओं के साथ-साथ, क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं के साथ-साथ, वह नहीं मिल पा रहा है। उसको भी हमें देखना है। जिन देशभक्तों ने, मुस्लिम देश-भक्तों ने अपना जीवन अर्पित किया देश की स्वतंत्रता के लिए, फांसी के तख्ते पर चढ़े, आजादी की लड़ाई में मरे, अपना त्याग, बलिदान किया, उनकी जीवनी पर भी रोशनी पड़नी चाहिए। इसी तरह से हमें देखना चाहिए कि पूरे देश को यह लगे कि यह सारा देश हमारा है, ऐसी भावना हमें अपने लोगों में, बच्चों में पैदा करने की जरूरत है। . . . कि वह बच्चे उस भावना से उनको स्वीकार करें। अब हम देखते हैं कि कई चैनल बन गए हैं, हमें इस दिशा में चीन से भी कुछ सबक लेने की जरूरत है। चीन ने कुछ चीजों को अपने देश में मना कर दिया कि यहाँ हम अपने देश में इनको स्वीकार नहीं करेंगे, जैसे केबल टी.वी. जो है उसको पूरी तरह से उन्होंने स्वीकार नहीं किया बल्कि हटा दिया, उसको मना कर दिया कि हम इसको नहीं दिखाने देंगे क्योंकि हमारे देश की संस्कृति के विपरीत जाता है। पश्चिम की संस्कृति दूसरी बात है, वह जो कुछ चाहे दिखाएँ। हर देश की अपनी संस्कृति होती है, हमारे भारत की अपनी संस्कृति है। इस लिहाज से हमें अपनी संस्कृति-सम्पदा और सांस्कृतिक मर्यादा का पूरा ध्यान रखना चाहिए। तो दूरदर्शन जिस तरह से अपने चैनल बढ़ा रहा है और बहुत से लोगों को मौका दे रहा है कि वे अलग-अलग चैनल में भी अपनी चीजों को देख सकते हैं, तो इस दिशा में हमारे सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री जो कुछ भी काम कर रहे हैं, यह तारीफ के काबिल है और हमें इसके लिए उन्हें धन्यवाद देना चाहिए, साधुवाद देना चाहिए और उनको प्रोत्साहन देना चाहिए, बड़ावा देना चाहिए कि वे जिस गति से बढ़ा रहे हैं, उस गति से बढ़ाएँ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे कोई खतरा नहीं दिखाई देता, जिस तरह से मरे पूर्व-युक्ता ने कहा कि एक बड़ा खतरा पैदा हो गया है कि हम अपनी भूमिका ही समाप्त कर रहे हैं, मुझे ऐसा कोई खतरा नहीं दीखता। भारत की संस्कृति पांच हजार बरस पुरानी है,

कितने धपड़ उसने सहें, कितने आक्रमण उसने सहें, कितनी अय और पराजय के बीच से वह निकली, किस तरह से उसने अपने को बचाकर रखा, भारतीय संस्कृति की जड़ें बहुत गहरी हैं, बहुत मजबूत हैं। कोई ऐसी भावना हमारे मन में नहीं आनी चाहिए कि कहों से कोई हल्का-सा झटका आ गया तो का केवल टी.वी. के जरिए या किसी अन्य तरीके से तो वह हमको विचलित कर देगा, हमारी संस्कृति की जड़ें हिला देगा, ऐसा मुझको कोई खतरा नहीं दिखाई देता।

महोदया, मैं पूरी तरह से इसका समर्थन करता हूँ और मैं अपनी तरफ से मंत्री महोदय को प्रोत्साहन के शब्द के साथ शुभकामनाएं देता हूँ कि वह जिस गति से अपने इस मंत्रालय को बढ़ा रहे हैं, अपने कार्य को बढ़ा रहे हैं, उसमें उनको सफलता मिले। धन्यवाद।

SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL (Bihar) : Madam, I am speaking on this Ministry after a very, very long time. I don't remember when I spoke last time on this subject. The reasons for my not addressing on this subject for several years are the three most prominent ones. One, of course, being the most recent one, i.e., Madam, after you spoke yesterday, I find it very difficult for me to speak with the same eloquence and with the same indepth knowledge. My second constraint is that I was associated with this Ministry for some years in my life. In all humility I may say that in the last two-three decades, I held the charge of this portfolio for a longer period than any one else. Therefore, my association with this Ministry goes very deep and for the several problems that we are confronting today, I cannot exonerate myself of the responsibility for those trends. In a way, many of these achievements and distortions that we are

been witnessing today are legacy of several things that happened in the past. I will try to address myself to those issues in a while,

This Ministry has a pivoted position. The Ministry is on© of the key Ministries. It is a politico-social Ministry and it has to look at the various dimensions of life. Cultural dimension is another one. Therefore, when I examine it, I would like to go into the details.

Madam, my third constraint, which is also very important, is that the Minister is a very close friend of mine. It is very difficult to speak about a person who is in-charge of the Ministry and whom I hold close to me with great affection. I am watching with a great deal of affection and regard the way he is trying to cope with the challenges which are now far more telling and far more difficult than those I confronted in my time. All the same, I think, it is very important. I think, he will also take it in the spirit in which I am saying. And I notice that certain derailments are taking place, to use the most mild word for it. And those derailments are not only in terms of institutions, not only in terms of organisations, but I think, primarily it is also the derailment of concepts, and the derailment of perceptions, and the role that we assign to the various aspects of media the print media, the electronic media. And in the changing society, in the changing world, how do we view them?

The print media, to begin with, if I may say so, is now confronted with very grave distortions. And I am addressing myself with the print media more

because I think;—my friends who spoke earlier focused attention in another direction. I want to talk about the print media for a while. I think, today, the distortions that I have talked of make us ask to redefine what the status is of the media, what is the place of the media and who do we address ourselves in the print media—I am talking of newspapers and journals. And we have to ask ourselves a question that, in the context of the freedom of the press that we have been talking about for nearly half a century now, and approximately for a similar period before freedom came, do we view Editorial chair as the main centre of that attention that the nation wants to give it, as justice Sarkaria recently spelt out? And he has lightly said that, after all, the freedom of expression and the freedom of the press is conveyed to the various dimensions of the media through the Editorial chair. Now we are seeing that a very major change is occurring. We could foresee it several years ago. But today what is happening is very strange and very odd. I know, in the present context and particularly because the gallery is mostly a print media gallery, it is difficult to talk about the print media because, I know, everything that I say will never find a word in the press tomorrow, and I am going to talk about the print media at some length. I ask a question. And that question is : Is it a fact that all those owners who were till yesterday in the back seat are now occupying the driving seat themselves ? Why are they doing it ? Why was it happened that they feel that their name must come sometimes as Managing Director, sometimes as Editor, sometimes as Director-Editor or something like that ? Several distortions are taking place. Now the steering wheel is being taken over for a purpose. How does it happen, for instance, the child of an owner suddenly thinks that he or she is equipped to run the ship of a newspaper ? How ? And why ? How does it happen that every major industrial house of the country, which did not have a paper till yesterday, is now buying one or starting one or acquiring one ? There must be some reason. Obviously businessmen

do not invest money in losing propositions. But some papers are losing now. But even then, they go on. Of course, many established papers are now a profitable proposition. I think, the profits that the leading newspapers are now making sometimes beat their other industrial interests also. The only reasons one can think of is that newspapers today are used to cajole, to influence, and to try to change the policies of the Government or try to twist the policies of the Government in a way that could serve their interests. Ever since the first Press Commission came, this issue has been coming before the nation time and again. And every time the issue came up, we were also dealing with it, and I was also dealing with the subject—How do we deal with the ownership pattern of the newspapers ? The nation could not find a way out which could satisfy everybody. And we started having a feeling that perhaps the ownership did not really matter a great deal because there was a great deal of proliferation of the press also. It is a matter of satisfaction that today in India you find that the language press has expanded remarkably well. The number of newspapers that you have in Hindi or in Malayalam or in Bengali or Tamil by itself is a counter-weight to all those papers which were the monopoly houses controlled, as was commonly said. Yet the point remains, which are the most influential papers so far as the policy-makers in Delhi are concerned ? Which are the papers which can really have access to the policy-makers ? The freedom of the press, therefore, today is acquiring a new meaning, a new connotation and that is how—i: is used to influence the authority and the sensitivity of the reader—that is now gradually being undermined.

With due respect and with all my affection for him, may I ask the Minister whether the Government has taken notice of it that in the last two months, some major changes have taken place ? Has the Government discussed it with the owners ? Has the Government discussed it is used to influence the authority and Government called the editors ? Has the

Government noticed change of editors ? One of the respected editors used to say with pride that his job was the second most important job in the country, and suddenly he is on the road ? Has the Government taken notice of this ? If the Government has taken notice of this, what is the Government's reaction to it ? Does the Government think 'All right, let things go on' ? Does it suit the Government ? Does it serve any purpose for the Government that this type of change in the press continues ? Therefore, I think, the main point we have to ask ourselves, and the Government must reply to it, is whether the Government believe or whether the Government is afraid that this is the area which they should never enter and if it tries to touch it, then its position will become vulnerable ! Does it believe that all the strength that it may have to survive can be undermined by those interests who are now trying to undermine or distort the concept of freedom of the press ? The recommendations of the Press Commission may have run out of course. Two Press Commissions sat. The second Press Commission came under very odd circumstances. I am not going to address myself to that. It is for the first time that silence on the part of the Government is very telling. Silence itself is a message and indifference is a worse message. I say it with regret that neither the Minister nor the Prime Minister nor the Cabinet nor any Minister has objected to what is happening under their very nose in Delhi, and that too, in leading papers. I think when the Minister replies, if he chooses and if he is not too much afraid of these barons, he will tell us as to why the Government is silent and why the matter has not been discussed in the Cabinet so far and why the Prime Minister has not uttered a word about it and why the Prime Minister has not felt that the way the editors are being thrown out and the way the driving seats are being occupied by intruders. The interventions and observations made by Pandit Nehru must be recalled. I hope my friend, if he has not read the Constituent Assembly debates, will do so now. It will be worth

his while to do it. If he does not find the time to read all those, let him ask his very able bureaucrats in the Ministry who are very respected intellectuals, to give him a summary of those debates when the freedom of the press was discussed in the Constituent Assembly itself. That is a commitment that the Constituent Assembly made to the nation.

We often talk of the trust with destiny—Pandit Nehru had made. That trust was spelt out in the Constituent Assembly debates regarding the freedom of the press. I would also like to remind the Minister. Please find some time to read Nehru's speeches also in this context. I would also request him that since it is not the 'Congress' Party, it is the Congress-I, Congress-Indira, please read Indira Gandhi's speeches, if nobody else's in so far as the freedom of the press is concerned and so far as the ownership pattern is concerned. Therefore, I would urge upon him that this is something over which we must do some thinking.

The print media today is presenting a test, to my mind, to see the Government's intentions, Government's Resolve, Government's outlook about the media. This is because this is one institution which we value. This is one institution which can throw light. I will come to the electronic media a little later. But if this also can be undermined, where is the hope ? What happens then ? On the one side, you have the barons controlling these things. They will tell you as to what economic policy you should follow. They will tell us as to what our attitude should be towards Dunkel if I may say so. They will tell us as to what type of attitude we should have in foreign policy. On the other side, the Government would be defending the closed-door electronic media. In between, the nation would become uninformed; there would only be distortions and untruths.

I would like to know : Does the Government believe that the new economic policy makes it difficult for them ? Does the Government believe that the new economic policy and the change of pattern in print media are two sides of the same coin ? Does the Government believe that this is,



basically, a change; that when they are going in for liberalisation, (his is one more dimension of liberalisation ? Does the Government believe that the media also, the print media also, needs to undergo a change ? These are some of the very pertinent questions about which, I think, the nation would like to get answers.

I would also like to know : Does he feel that the contemporary reality the world over is similar? What is his concept of contemporary reality, so far as the print media is concerned ? I would have continued to speak on this subject and would have addressed myself in further details. But I would like to take a few minutes to talk about several other aspects also, what are taking place.

There is another point about which I would like to ask the hon. Minister. I think the hon. Minister would have taken note of the fact that a few days ago, an Editor of a newspaper in Maharashtra was sent to jail for four days. Now, I do not want to talk about the Legislative Assembly, its powers, its strength, etc. Has the Government no point of view in this ? Does the Government feel that it is absolutely all right for the Editor to be sent to jail ? The poor Editor is being crushed. On the one side, he speaks he is sent in. On the other, if he does not speak, he gets out of profession. Therefore, this is the situation that you are now confronted with. 'Does the Government have no view ? You have the same Party running the Government in Maharashtra. Why did not the Prime Minister pick up the telephone and ask the Chief Minister : 'What are you doing ?'.

Madam, we know that in the earlier days, Bills were thought of. Once, one such Bill was flaunted by one Chief Minister. I am not mentioning the name of the Chief Minister of that time. Then, there was a Bill in Bihar also. It was withdrawn in the wake of protests. Then, there was a Bill in Kerala also. It was also withdrawn. Similarly, there were other Bills attempted to legislate which were also withdrawn.

Now, this is a new dimension. This is a new scene. You would haul the Editor before the House Bar and consign him to

jail straightaway. Trial through the court is also not necessary. Call him before the Bar of House and send him to jail. Finished. You can do this because you have the majority. I would like to ask him : Have we, the chosen representatives of the people, become so insensitive that we cannot tolerate any criticism ? Even if any criticism is out of ideosyncrasy rightly or wrongly—I am not justifying the criticism—have we become so insensitive that we cannot tolerate it ? The right to criticise is one thing. It is the golden principle of the print media, Madam, that used to be printed in the New York Times, which said : 'I differ with you, but I would give my life to protect your right to differ with me'. I should have the right to say : 'I differ with you'. But here, a new chapter opening up.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister : Did he react to it ? Did the Government react to it ? Did the Prime Minister react to it ? Madam, the Prime Minister wears two caps; one cap as the Prime Minister of India, and another cap as the Party President. As the Congress President, if nothing else, did he not think it worthwhile to ask his own Chief Minister as to what he was doing ? The poor Editor was sent to jail. He has since come out also. Therefore, the whole thing would be forgotten till another Editor is hauled up. Don't have any public opinion on this ? Do we Want to go on with this ?

In this connection, Madam, I have another issue which pertains to the print media. You also referred to it. This is about the foreign Press. This is, again, very interesting. On this issue also, the silence of the Government is absolutely loud. The Government has not said anything about the foreign Press. You might have spoken very eloquently on it. I may be speaking meekly. Then, somebody might write about it. However, the Government is silent. It is not saying anything. Does the Minister of Information and Broadcasting believe that absolute silence is the golden principle ? Perhaps, he derives his moral authority from the Prime Minister because who always prefers silence to anything else. That seems to be the policy of the Government. I want to ask him what is the Government's attitude towards

4.00 P.M.

the foreign press. Does he want the newspapers to come in, or doesn't he want them to come in? I think it is important at this time. Therefore I demand, and I hope the House will agree with me, that there should be appointed forthwith, a new Press Commission. A new situation has arisen, new distortions have taken place, new challenges have been made and there is a serious threat to the freedom of the press from unforseeable quarters. Therefore, I feel and demand that the Minister should consider the possibility of setting up a Press Commission, and this Press Commission should be totally independent and free to come to and examine the various things.

While talking of foreign press, I want to go slightly beyond the Government. I notice that various journalist organizations, the various Editors' Guilds and other Guilds, have protested against this. It is very interesting. All those Guilds which are very much worried regarding the foreign press, and justifiably, did not say a word about the foreign electronic media. They think, that doesn't matter; let them come in. They have come in and therefore we have come to a stage when the satellite is on us. You have mentioned about it yesterday. But also, at the same time, you see that there is a sea-change in the entire media world today. This has not happened suddenly. Ever since the 70s, when I had the privilege of being Minister, of I & B the issue was taken up by me in the UNESCO in 1970, 1972 and 1974. Every session I put up an issue and said two things. One, I said, at the international level the free flow of information was a myth because it was a one-way traffic. But secondly I said—and I had pleaded—that we must reach a stage when the nations could yet together and spell out the implications of a new satellite era and how we shall cope with it and how we shall evolve a code of conduct. The McBride Commission was set up, and again I want to commend to my young friend, if you have not read the McBride Commission report, for God's sake do it because your reading will help you a great deal in understanding the trends that were foreseeable, and those are on us. The McBride Commission spelt out two things: the type of international relations we should have in the media world and

also the internal changes that we should make. Unfortunately, we have made neither the internal changes nor do we equip ourselves to meet the external challenges. The McBride Commission had foreseen what we are seeing today and they said, you will never be able to stop them by means other than strengthening yourselves. The satellite is there. You cannot anyway stop it now. It is there. It was coming. And the only way to do it is how you make your own media more credible, how you make your own media more interesting, how you make your own media such that people go to it and do not go elsewhere. The interesting dimension of the McBride Commission is that it spells out in detail the methods, the philosophies, the professionalisms, the definitions, internal structures and external responses to meet the challenges. We have neither read the McBride Commission report nor tried to implement it. As a result of that debate, ultimately, both the UNO and the UNESCO passed a resolution called "The New Information Order." This was totally undermined by a Super Power at that time. We are still there. They undermined it by walking out of the UNESCO and they stayed out of the UNESCO till the UNESCO was cowed down and the New Information Order died its death. That is a different issue altogether.

But also, at the same time, I was talking of the debate that occurred in the UNESCO. In the first debate I had only the support from some developing countries, and all the developed countries were looking at it in a different fashion. In 1972, interestingly, I suddenly found that Canada, Russia—Soviet Union at that time—and France backed India. The reasons were very interesting. I asked the Canadians, "Why are you doing this?" The Canadians said, "We are victims of proximity with America. Our TV is drowned. Our theatre is killed. Our films are influenced. Our literature does not exist. We have been culturally totally overwhelmed. Therefore, we want to resist this." How could they resist it? It is very interesting again. In the subsequent years the parliamentarians set up a commission to spell out the cultural policy of Canada in the decades to come. That commission again divided itself into sub-commissions, the literature

sub-commission, the films sub-commission, the video sub-commission, the music sub-commission etc. Then, all the intellectuals of the country sat together, spent two years and created the policy.

We are also seeing the same thing today. I think, the Ministry of Human Resource Development has circulated a paper on the cultural policy. For the last three sessions we are hearing that it is going to be discussed, but it has never been discussed here. Therefore, you find a strange vacuum there. What is your cultural policy? What is under threat? What do we want to do, and how do we want to deal with it? The difficulty, I think, at the moment is that we are now seeing a situation where opportunities are "being lost. The difficulty at the moment is that unless we try to look at it and work out our perceptions and policies, we cannot cope with it. How do we cope with it? Before we cope with it, the Government must decide whether it wants to have a policy or not. If it wants to have a policy and if policy means only the status quo and if policy means only keeping control of media and thinking is that everything will be all right, then, of course, there will be one situation. But, if you like to see that the refusal to liberate the electronic media is now becoming counter-productive, then, the situation will be different. It is not today. I am on record having submitted it to Mrs. Gandhi who was the Prime Minister at that time, as far back "as 1972. If you look into your files, you may see that in 1972 I spelt out to her that it was already becoming counter-productive. We did not have the TV at that time so much. We had the radio. We worked out details of two schemes also. But the tragedy was that by then, with all respect to the memory of Mrs. Gandhi, unfortunately, she had changed her mind, and we did not liberate the media.

But, then, what happened later on? Here I blame my side and the other side also. One of the persons whom I blame the most is Mr. Upendra. We got an opportunity. We did not utilise it. Twice the opportunity came to us to liberate the media. We did not do it except tinkering with it. ... (*Interruptions*)

Of course, I blamed myself. You were sleeping at that time.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : No, I was concentrating on your speech.

SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL : The main point is that unfortunately in this country we have created a psychology in the Government. Whichever party may be in power, we view information as power, as an asset which we must keep safely in our pocket. We do not see it as an input. We do not see that an informed society is the basic thing for transforming it. We did not want to inform the society. Therefore, we have an un-informed society or semi-informed society, and it can be exposed very easily to influences from outside.

Some years ago I was in Kashmir. Today we are talking at length about Kashmir. That was the evening when Farooq Abdullah had been dismissed. I was sitting in a houseboat. There was curfew outside. My friend, Mr. Jagmohan, was the Governor at that time, Rajiv Gandhi's time. We were sitting there. Some people came over there. They had a radio set in their hands. They tuned in to the BBC. I asked, "Why are you listening to the BBC?" They said, "Because the All India Radio *jhoot Boltha hoi*." I asked, "How do you say that?" They said, "Sir, you have been here the whole day. I tune in to the All India Radio. Listen to what they say." This is where the credibility comes in. The All India Radio did not tell anything about what was happening. They switched on to Pakistan. There was a distorted version. They switched on to the BBC. I saw the three spectacles within fifteen minutes. Madam, I was once telling my friend in this House that ultimately the relevance of the media was its credibility. Yesterday, you had spelt it out more eloquently. How do you become credible abroad? You can be credible abroad when you are credible at home. The American media became credible after it exposed the Vietnam episode. Then, its international credibility has gone up. Why is the BBC more credible? Even in respect of immediacy! I will tell you an incident that happened yesterday. Yester-

day, We were discussing in this House at length the London talks that were going on. But it did not matter to our media. Before I went home, there was a call from BBC. They knew already that we had discussed this. They wanted my reaction. That is what is immediacy. We are a feudal society. We relax. After dinner, we have a pawn in our mouth. Then, we want to know what happened to the nation. In the meantime, all the international media have gone ahead, gone to the town. They have told their people the whole story. We only don't know our story. I asked BBC when they phoned to me as to what was happening there. They said : We are trying to protest here why we are not taken into confidence. But Doordarshan never protested. All India Radio never protested. Even the Minister for Information never asked the Government as to what he should tell the people. Unless the Minister for Information becomes the spokesman of the Government of India, things will not change. Neither the PIB can do this job nor can the Directorate-General. Well, the issue is that the Government does not have the perception as to how to cope with it. In the beginning when the satellite television came, the first reaction was : All right, it is a passing phase. After all people don't listen to it long. They will listen to us. After all, they are the captive audience and they have to come to us. Suddenly, things have changed. Every town had its own link-ups. Every home was viewing the satellite television. Then came the panic reaction. Panic reaction and what ? Expand. One band, two bands, three bands, ten bands. When I say this, I am reminded of a story. When I was the Minister of Information, in those days, one very small kingdom in the Gulf region—I don't name it deliberately—decided to have a television system. Gulf oil riches was there. An order was placed with a German concern which installed the television system almost overnight. Three days prior to the King's birth day when the television system was to be formally inaugurated, I received a call from our Ambassador. He said : "We are in a

serious difficulty." I asked what the difficulty was. He said : The difficulty is that they have the television. But they don't know what to show. That is exactly what is happening to us sir. You installed everything and then handed over the whole thing to telecast films interviews with film actors, directors, etc. Seventy per cent of the time is now devoted to films. Yesterday, you referred to this, Madam. The main point is, at the moment, Doordarshan and those who are controlling it are suffering from an identity crisis. What is Doordarshan, what are its objectives, what does it want to do ? Therefore, I would like to say that unless you are able to identify yourself, what your social purpose is, why you want a particular pattern of control, unless you spell it out, you yourself will not be able to see light of the day. Unfortunately, this is the distortion that is taking place. The other day, my friend, the Minister, was speaking here. Suddenly, he started looking at Doordarshan as a money-making machine. Never in the past did we ever think that this was a Ministry which would earn money for the Government. If I look at the Budget again, it is now a net earner and not a net spender. Why is it so ? Because advertisements are available. How do we judge a good programme? It is a good programme if advertisers support it. It is a bad programme if it cannot find advertisers. Well, if it is an educational programme, if it means social change, then, you have to invest on it. You cannot get money out of it. For instance, you see that Delhi the land values are raising. Today you can decide, tomorrow you can decide that you will sell out the school buildings because you can get more money. If this is the only purpose, getting more money, then the sense or the nonsense of it becomes very simple. If your social objectives don't cover family planning, I am sorry for this. When I talk of family planning and when the serials were started, it was a history of soap operas. The soap opera serials we never telecast in the past.

Long after I left the Ministry in 1982 or 1983, I was attending a conference in France and I came across Mexicans who have done remarkably well with the soap opera to carry the message on family planning. On my invitation they came and the

Ministry officials also came and an agreement was signed with them. To cut the long story short, we forgot family planning and now we are left with soap operas. That is how the soap opera has come in. Similarly, you are seeing that type of change and attitude of change that you wanted. Nehru was never tired of talking all the time about scientific temper. We were also thinking in terms of modernising our agriculture. We have also been talking in terms of cultivation of a better taste. How do we cultivate a better taste? Not through films from Bombay. Yesterday also Deoji said, "The more we see vulgarity and violence in the films, serials, the more we are vulgarised and more violence comes in." But I think it is all right since advertisers are available and since money is coming in. Unfortunately, the issue before the Government seems to be and that is what I see in the Budget also—which serial gets more money. That is the real situation. Again there will be a panic reaction. If the Zee T.V. gets more enterprising, copy it. If another media comes, in which get's more advertisements, copy it. They telecast three films. You telecast five films. You will get more advertisers; and that is the test. Now, no other test is applied.

What is the objective? These are several identity crisis overlapping. But one of the dimensions that I want to mention and the issue today before us is that you are expanding hardware but you are hardly spending anything on software.

When advertisements were first introduced on the T.V., I resisted it. But I got a Cabinet resolution passed that all the money that comes through advertisements will go into a pool called the pool for building software. That has been forgotten. Now all the money goes into the Budget itself. Therefore, that money is not available for programme building and programme making.

Now, Doordarshan is confronted with another challenge. In India there are several people who are taking transponders from elsewhere. They send cassettes. I do not have any objection to it. The Sun channel has come in, the Jain channel has come in and two more channels are com-

ing in. For God sake, work out a policy, not by stopping them. Stopping them is not the way out. But if you start a system of licensing, then, you will have a system whereby you will be able to put across your point of view also. At the same time, I would like to say that Indian programmes that way will have more Indianness about it. That is what we have to think of. I was told some six months ago that a Cabinet Committee was going to be set up to spell out the modalities for licensing. But that Committee has not yet been named. May I know, why? Leave alone the meetings of it. Why is that Committee not being set-up? Why is it being postponed? Therefore, I think that at least for the time being the Committee or the Cabinet in totality must modify the old 1870 Telegraph Act, if nothing else. Why can't you possibly look at it?

Before I sit down, I would only say that if you are making a policy and if you want to copy the West, please also keep in mind the fact that America has such a thing as Public Broadcasting. Public Broadcasting is the real life of the Americans. That should be your motto, not the other things that we are thinking of.

We are now having three channels. The Minister has been thinking of eight or ten channels. According to my estimate, any channel needs approximately Rs. 5 crores a month for making good programmes. Provided that money first, and don't depend on anybody. Don't say that advertisers must give you money and only then you will do it.

As some Members said rightly, do tell us about your difficulty with the Prasar Bharati Act. The Parliament had already passed it. . . which is very anaemic. I am not satisfied with it. I compromised with Mr. Upendra at that time because Mr. Upendra promised to go step by step and do it gradually. But he did not realise that we would get out in the meantime. (Interruptions). At least, implement that anaemic Bill, the Prasar Bharati Bill. Why don't you do it? Also, at the same time, please set up an organisation for some sort of social audit. What is being sent? Who is changing it? How do

we orient it ? You have the Press Council for something. Something like that should be set up. The Prasar Bharati Bill, perhaps, spells it out also. Therefore, kindly do something and do not just tell us, "Pass our Budget and everything will be fine."

Thanking you very much.

**श्रीमती दीप्ता वर्मा (मध्य प्रदेश) :** माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के कार्यकरण पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं और बार-बार एक ही विषय के लिए बात आती है, जैसा कि हमारे माननीय सदस्य पंडे जी ने कहा कि यह अपने 12 हाथों से समाज के विकास में, देश की संस्कृति को सुरक्षित रखने में व मानव संसाधन विकास देश का हो, इसमें अपने बारह हाथों से मदद करता है, उसी तरह से हमारा मंत्रालय है जिसके बारह हाथ हैं। बार-बार यह आलोचना होती है कि बाहर के स्टैलाइट चैनल हैं, पाप संस्कृति का आक्रमण हो रहा है। मैं कई बार जब विदेशी लोगों से बात करती हूँ, वह कहते हैं कि क्या कारण है। हमारे भारतीय चाहें वह इंजीनियर हों, डाक्टर हों या आम आदमी हो, जब वह बाहर जाता है तो सब से ज्यादा वह प्रतिभाशाली होता है। सब से ज्यादा डॉक्टर, डॉक्टर इंजीनियर पंडे डॉक्टर इन्फार्मेट जो पीपुल हैं, उनको सब से ज्यादा सूचना है। क्या कारण है ? हमारी यही है कि हमारा सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय अपने 12 हाथों से मुख्य के पूरे विकास को और पूरी नागरिकता का परिचय देता है, सूचना देता है, शिक्षा देता है व मनोरंजन करता है और विश्व नागरिकता के लिए तैयार करता है। तो बहुत जरूरी है कि सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय, दूरदर्शन, रेडियो जिसकी बार-बार आलोचना होती है और सब से ज्यादा आलोचना होती है कि इसकी संस्कृति खत्म हो रही है। हमारी संस्कृति पर आक्रमण हो रहा है या यह कहिए कि घर तक पहुंच गया है और इससे विदेशी आक्रमणों से बचना चाहिए। क्या हमको अपने विज्ञापन से जे.डी.ए.टी.टी. काटिए कि एडवर्टाइजमेंट देना है ? क्या यह अपने जे.डी.टी.टी. की नीति भी करता है ? मैं तो

मंत्रालय को धन्यवाद ही देना चाहूंगी कि एक तरह से अपनी आर्थिक कमियों के बावजूद यह मंत्रालय, दूरदर्शन हो, रेडियो हो, पी.आई.वी. हो, आई.आई.एम.सी. हो, आर्थिक अभावों के बावजूद भी अपने सामाजिक विकास में योगदान देता है और बेहतर नागरिक बनाने की कोशिश करता है। इसने पिछले वर्ष में 15 प्रतिशत इसकी अगर ओवरऑल ग्रोथ लें दूरदर्शन की, इसने की है और यह 430 करोड़ का इसका डीफीसिट है और आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में दूरदर्शन को पूर्ण रूप से आत्म-निर्भर बनाने का इसका लक्ष्य रखा गया है, लेकिन सवाल यह है कि सिर्फ मंत्रालय का ही दायित्व नहीं है। दायित्व उस समाज का है, उस समाज के नागरिकों का है कि जो इसको दिशा दे। सिर्फ मंत्रालय या अपने मूल्यों पर चिंता करके आर्थिक रूप से हम कहें कि व्यवसायीकरण हो रहा है, विज्ञापन लिए जा रहे हैं और विज्ञापनों की आय से इस मंत्रालय को चलाया जा रहा है, दूरदर्शन को चलाया जा रहा है। यह जिम्मेदारी सिर्फ एक विभाग की नहीं है या किसी मंत्रालय की नहीं है। महोदया, दीसवीं रुदी का जो एक सबसे ज्यादा खतरनाक आविष्कार हुआ और जिसका भारत में एडार्पण हुआ, व था दूरदर्शन का उदय। यह सबसे भयंकर अस्त्र भी साबित हो सकता है, एक खतरनाक अस्त्र भी साबित हो सकता है समाज और संस्कृति को क्षम करने में और दूसरी तरफ यह सबसे ज्यादा उपयोगी अस्त्र भी साबित हो सकता है बशर्ते कि इसका इस्तेमाल हम सही ढंग से, सही दिशा देने में और ठीक समय पर सूचना देने में और मनोरंजन देने में करें।

महोदया, दूरदर्शन दो सभ्यताओं के मिश्रण का प्रतीक हो सकता है। दूसरी तरफ उसी को यदि हम आक्रमण के रूप में लें तो यह बहुत जरूरी है कि दूरदर्शन के ग्राम्स ज्यादा-से-ज्यादा भारतीयता पर आधारित हों। पिछले दिनों बहुत कुछ ऐसे अच्छे प्रोग्राम्स बने, मैं उनके लिए मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगी। "यसोगोत्रा"

का अभी जिक्र किया क्या "यशोमोत्रा" इस देश में शुरू करना मलत था ? क्या "रामायण" और "महाभारत" जैसे धारा-वाहिक शुरू करना मलत था जिसके द्वारा कि देश की एकता और अखंडता बढ़ी और जिसके द्वारा देश में सामाजिक चेतना जगाने का काम किया गया । महोदया, बार-बार दूरदर्शन के चैनलों पर आक्रमण किया जाता है । हमने सबसे पहले एक प्राथमरी राष्ट्रीय चैनल शुरू किया था और जब बहुत सीमित सूचना संचार था, दूरदर्शन का नेटवर्क नहीं बढ़ा था या हम इतना तकनीकी विकास नहीं कर पाए थे तब इस सरकारी मीडिया को अपने हाथ में रखना आसान था । महोदया, मैं तो धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगी मंत्रालय और मंत्री जी को कि जिस तरह से वह दूरदर्शन का नेटवर्किंग करते जा रहे हैं और पिछले वर्षों में उन्होंने बहुत बड़े स्तर पर दूरदर्शन की नेटवर्किंग की है । जगह-जगह एल.पी.टी. और एच.पी.टी. बढ़ते जा रहे हैं और हर संसद सदस्य अपने क्षेत्र में एक एल.पी.टी. और एच.पी.टी. बढ़ाने की बात करता है । तो महोदया, प्राथमरी चैनल बढ़ते जाएं, यह जरूरी है लेकिन उसके साथ-साथ क्या हम बाहर के सैटेलाइट चैनलों को रोक पाएंगे ? यदि दूरदर्शन अपने कार्यक्रमों को यह मेट्रो-चैनल बढ़ाकर नहीं दिखाएगा वह बाहर के प्रोग्राम्स तो क्या दूसरे चैनल हम "केबल" लगाकर नहीं देखेंगे ।

महोदया, अब तो वह मुख्यमंत्री है दिल्ली के, लेकिन कभी उनसे एक कार्यक्रम में भेंट हो गयी । उन्होंने कहा कि दूरदर्शन की मोनोपोली टूट गयी । हम देश में 25 चैनल्स देख लेते हैं और उन्होंने एक "केबल" आपरेटर को आशीर्वाद भी दिया । मैंने कहा कि मैं भी इसका स्वागत करता हूँ कि दूरदर्शन की मोनोपोली टूट गयी और मैं भी चाहती हूँ कि कभी-कभी विदेशी प्रोग्राम्स भी देखें, लेकिन उन्होंने कहा कि वह दूरदर्शन कभी नहीं देखते । तो महोदया, जो अपनी भारतीयता पर ज्यादा जोर देते हैं और मैं तो यह कहूंगी कि पूरी बी.बी.सी. पाटी "स्वदेशी" की बात कहती है, लेकिन वहां पर

यह सुनने को मिला कि वह दूरदर्शन कभी नहीं देखते जोकि अपनी भारतीयता के प्रोग्राम

[अपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बी. नारायणसासी) पीछा-सीन हुए]

दिखाता है । उस पर "डिस्कवरी आफ इंडिया" प्रोग्राम आता है या और बहुत से अच्छे प्रोग्राम्स दिखाए गए हैं । महिलाओं के बारे में बहुत अच्छे प्रोग्राम्स दिखाए गए हैं । "जन-घाणी" दिखाया गया, "परिक्रमा" दिखाया गया और अभी "सूरभि" एक बहुत अच्छा प्रोग्राम दिखाया जा रहा है तो ऐसे प्रोग्राम्स जोकि भारतीयता पर जोर देने वाले हैं, आप पसंद न करें और दूरदर्शन पर इन्हें न देखें तो फिर देख किसका है ? क्या दूरदर्शन का जोकि भारतीयता पर आधारित अच्छे प्रोग्राम्स आपको दिखा रहा है ? इसलिए महोदया, बहुत जरूरी है कि मंत्रीजी अपने चैनल जरूर बढ़ाएं । मेट्रो चैनल दें और उसके द्वारा क्षेत्रीय चैनल देते चले जाएं, लेकिन लोगों की पसंद की स्वाधीनता या स्वतंत्रता होगी चाहिए, न कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा नग्नता, अश्लीलता दिखाने की । इन दोनों में से कौन सी चीज आप चाहती है, प्रोग्राम दिखाने की स्वतंत्रता, ज्यादा से ज्यादा चैनल देकर प्रोग्राम पसंद करने की स्वतंत्रता या फिर नग्नता, अश्लीलता दिखाने की स्वतंत्रता ?

बार-बार बी. बी. सी. का उदाहरण दिया जाता है, कहा जाता है बी.बी.सी. के प्रोग्राम के बारे में । वहां पर खुद उनका जो टेलीग्राफिक एक्ट है, उसमें पोस्टमास्टर जनरल को उन्होंने एक अधिकार दे रखा है कि वह लाइसेंस दे सकता है और किसी का भी लाइसेंस वह रद्द कर सकता है । आज तक कोई ऐसी घटना नहीं हुई कि किसी प्रोग्राम के लिए किसी प्रोड्यूसर का लाइसेंस रद्द किया गया हो । ऐसा कोई उदाहरण देखने को नहीं मिला । यह बहुत ज्यादा जिम्मेदारी है इस समाज के प्रोग्राम बनाने वालों की, कि जो बिज्ञापन देने हैं कैसे हों, जो प्रोग्राम हों वह कैसे हों । आज हमारे यहां केबल से बहुत से टी.वी. हैं, जैसे ए. टी.वी. है, जैन टी.वी. है, जी.टी.वी. है, ब्ले टी.वी. है, इसलिए बहुत ज्यादा जरूरी है कि हमारे अपने टी.वी. के विकास में सही दिशा दी जा सके, गतिशील दिशा दी

जा संके और कार्यक्रम शिक्षात्मक, मनोरंजनात्मक हों और सूचनात्मक हों। इसके लिए जरूरी है कि बहुत बड़े स्तर पर हम ट्रेनिंग दें। देखा गया है कि जिस तरह से तकनीकी का विकास हुआ है, मेट्रो चैनल बढ़ाए हैं, रिले स्टेशन बढ़ाए हैं, प्रोग्राम बढ़ रहे हैं, रोजनल प्रोग्राम भी बढ़ रहे हैं, लेकिन तकनीकी विकास के साथ-साथ स्किल्ड मैनपावर की कमी हम महसूस करते हैं। यह कमी चाहे आर्थिक कारणों की वजह से हो या जो उमर गैप को नहीं भर पाए उस कारण से हो, लेकिन यह जरूरी हो गया है कि मैनपावर आपकी बढ़ाना पड़ेगा।

हमारे दूरदर्शन के समाचारों के बारे में बार-बार आलोचना होती है। समाचार हमने संवाददाताओं के हाथ में छोड़ दिया है। संवाददाता हमारे छाया संवाददाता नहीं हैं, वह संवाददाता सिर्फ स्पोकन वर्ड हैं। तो मैं चाहूंगी, मंत्रीजी में कि स्पोकन वर्ड और रिटर्न वर्ड का भेद कर दिया जाए और हमारे दूरदर्शन के संवाददाता जो हों, वह छाया संवाददाता हों और उनकी ट्रेनिंग जरूर हो। विश्वसनीयता पर बार-बार इस सदन में कहा गया। मैं एक सर्वे रिपोर्ट को बताना चाहूंगी, जो पब्लिश हो चुकी है। यह सर्वेक्षण रिपोर्ट है, जो 28 सितंबर, 1993 को अखबारों में छपी थी। राष्ट्रीय और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय घटनाओं के संबंध में जैसा अभी माननीय गजराल साहब ने कहा कि बी. बी. सी. पर ज्यादा लोग विश्वास करते हैं, कोई भी समाचार हो उसके लिए हम बी. बी. सी. को ज्यादा सुनते हैं, बाहर के चैनल ज्यादा देखते हैं, उन पर ज्यादा प्रोग्राम देखते हैं, रीडिंग सुनना ज्यादा पसंद करते हैं भारतीय दूरदर्शन की अपेक्षा। उसी के बारे में मैं बताना चाहूंगी कि राष्ट्रीय व अंतर्राष्ट्रीय घटनाओं की जानकारी के लिए लोगों में टी. वी. पर 47.8 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा लोगों ने विश्वास किया, उस पर निर्भर भी है। समाचार-पत्रों पर सिर्फ 40.8 प्रतिशत, विदेशी रेडियो से घटनाओं की जानकारी देने वाले की संख्या बहुत कम है, 86 प्रतिशत ने रिपोर्ट एक वर्ष में कमी विदेशी रेडियो स्टेशन नहीं सना। हम बात करते हैं विदेशी चैनल पर ज्यादा विश्वसनीयता की, हम जान करते हैं सी. एन. एन. और टी.

वी. सी. की, लेकिन आंकड़ा यह बता रहे हैं। बाकी जो बचे थे, उन लोगों में से 12 प्रतिशत सिर्फ बी. बी. सी. सुनते हैं हमारे देश में। कुछ बांग्ला देशी, पाकिस्तान और अमरीका के रेडियो सुनते हैं, लेकिन 82 प्रतिशत प्रतिदिन हमारे यहाँ टी. वी. पर खबरें सुनते हैं, 82 प्रतिशत लोग टी. वी. देखते हैं।

टी. वी. चैनल पर जो कवरज है, उसकी प्रगति के लिए मैं इस मंत्रालय और मंत्री जी को बधाई देती हूँ और समाचारों पर ज्यादा विश्वास करके यह कहा जाता है कि समाचारों का प्रतिशत 72.4 है, पत्रिकाओं का 29.6 प्रतिशत है। प्रत्येक औसत बादमी एक दिन में 1 घंटा 52 मिनट टी. वी. देखता है। सारी आलोचना 1 घंटा 52 मिनट के प्रोग्राम के बारे में है और रेडियो 1 घंटा 3 मिनट सुनते हैं, 1 घंटा 18 मिनट पत्रिका पढ़ते हैं। तो हमारी विश्वसनीयता यहीं पर सिद्ध हो जाती है कि दूरदर्शन या जो हमारा सरकारी मीडिया है, उस पर कितने ज्यादा लोग निर्भर करते हैं। 1991 में दूरदर्शन का जो विकास था वह 100 प्रतिशत था तथा दूरदर्शन की व्यञ्जरीय भी 100 प्रतिशत थी। लेकिन 1993 में आकर 80 परसेंट रह गई, लेकिन "स्टार" टी. वी. सिर्फ 9 प्रतिशत और "जी" टी. वी. 11 प्रतिशत है। हम बात करते हैं बार-बार कि अपसंस्कृति फैल रही है और भारतीय संस्कृति पर वाकफ हो रहा है, हमारी संस्कृति नष्ट होने जा रही है। तो मैं उसी संदर्भ में बता रही हूँ कि दूरदर्शन का जो हमारा चैनल एक है, उसकी 30 प्रतिशत व्यञ्जरीय है और मेट्रो चैनल की 18 प्रतिशत है। हमारा नेटवर्क इस देश में 32 प्रतिशत है। तो मंत्री जी मैं तो आपसे यही प्रार्थना करूंगी कि क्षेत्रीय चैनल हम बढ़ाते चले जाएं जिससे क्षेत्रीय प्रतिभाओं का विकास हो। मैं कुछ सुझाव के तौर पर या जो हमारे दूरदर्शन के सुझाव हैं, उन पर आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहती हूँ कि साहित्य पर हमें ध्यान देना चाहिए। हमारी व्यञ्जरीय होनी चाहिए कि हिन्दी में साहित्य के प्रोग्राम हम ज्यादा दें जिससे कि हम एक स्तरीयता बनाए रखें। बार-बार कहा जाता है कि अंग्रेजी के प्रोग्राम ज्यादा दिए जाएं दूरदर्शन पर, लेकिन 90 प्रतिशत हिन्दी



कार्यक्रम लोग पसंद करते हैं, सिर्फ 10 पर-  
सेट ही हमारे अंग्रेजी के कार्यक्रम देखे जाते  
हैं। हमारी पार्टी के ही एक सदस्य ने कहा  
था कि हिन्दी थोपी न जाए, मैं उनकी  
सूचना के लिए बताना चाहूँगी कि हिन्दी  
कार्यक्रम सर्वोत्तम हैं, सबसे अधिक पापुलर  
हैं, सबसे अधिक प्रिय हैं और साहित्य अवश्य  
उसमें आना चाहिए। कई समय था जब  
आकाशवाणी ही आकाशवाणी थी, उस समय  
साहित्य का योगदान आकाशवाणी के लिए बहुत  
बड़ी निगाहत थी और उस समय के प्रोग्राम  
बहुत ज्यादा सराहे जाते थे, उस समय भग-  
वती शरण दाव, ईला चंद जोशी, समिश्रानंदन  
पंत, नरेंद्र शर्मा, सर्वेश्वर दयाल खसैना,  
रघवीर सहाय आदि बहुत से ऐसे नाम थे  
जिन्होंने हमारे मीडिया को एक विश्वसनीयता  
और एक स्तरीयता दी थी, जो इस समय  
बहुत कम है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से गुजारिश  
करना चाहूँगी कि प्रतिभा की आवश्यकता है  
और पत्रिका कार्यक्रम जो हैं, उसको अभी  
रंगीन करने की आवश्यकता है। दूरदर्शन  
हमारा रंगीन है लेकिन पत्रिका अभी ब्लैक  
एंड वाइट है और एक ऐसा प्रोग्राम बनाना  
चाहिए जो साहित्यकारों के लिए, कलाकारों के  
लिए वक्त-चित्र और उनके पूरे व्यक्तित्व पर,  
कवित्व पर धारणात्मिक के रूप में हो, इस  
तरह से कुछ बनाना चाहिए। पुरानी बहुत  
पुरानी फिल्में और बहुत अच्छे-अच्छे राज-  
नीतिज्ञों के भाषण हैं, जो कि पुरानी नक्कीक  
पर लिए गए थे, वह आस्काइव में हैं और  
नष्ट हो रहे हैं। उनका पूरा रख-रखाव होना  
चाहिए और हाई टैक पर या बीटा कैस पर  
लिया जाना चाहिए।

मैं अपने क्षेत्र मध्य प्रदेश के बारे में भी  
बताना चाहूँगी। मध्य प्रदेश दूरदर्शन, जो  
कि अभी एक या डेढ़ वर्ष पहले शुरू हुआ है,  
बहुत अभावग्रस्त है। इस संबंध में मंत्री जी  
मैं आपको लिख भी चुकी हूँ, सिर्फ अभी  
भी दस घंटे का प्रसारण देते हैं और सारा  
रिजल उसका दूरदर्शन के कार्यक्रम पर निर्भर  
है, जबकि मध्य प्रदेश एक सांस्कृतिक गढ़  
है, क्षेत्र के हिस्से में भी उसका बहुत बड़ा  
क्षेत्रफल है, भाषा है, संस्कृति है, तो उस पर  
ज्यादा ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए और उस पर  
गुजर भी दिया जाना चाहिए। कौंसिल की

कमी है, बीडियो टेप्स की कमी है, कार्यक्रम  
बनाने की स्वतंत्रता के लिए भी वह अभी कंस्ट्रि-  
क्शन की ओर आंखें लगाए हुए हैं, फंड की कमी  
है। कुछ प्रोग्राम जो कि दूरदर्शन की उप-  
लब्धियां कहे जा सकते हैं वह हैं—वर्ल्ड विस  
वीक, डिस्कवरी आफ इंडिया, रामायण, महा-  
भारत या हमारे पुराने साहित्य पर आधारित  
सीरियल। बहुत अच्छी फिल्में भी बनी हैं।  
“बाग बहादुर” के बारे में मैंने मंत्री जी को  
भी लिखा था कि इसको दोबारा दिखाया जाए,  
मैं नहीं देख पाई थी। महिलाओं पर  
“रुकमावती की हवेली” बहुत अच्छा कार्यक्रम  
है, जंगल बक को आपने भारतीय भाषा में  
डब किया है। इसके लिए धन्यवाद। लेकिन  
बहुत जरूरी है कि हम अपने कुछ कार्यक्रमों  
को नियमित करें, सीमित करें, उस पर  
सेंशरशिप लगाएं। यदि आर्थिक रूप से  
पैसा कमाने के उद्देश्य से कुछ ऐसे दिखापन  
या फिल्में दिखाई जाती हैं तो उनको न  
दिखाया जाए। चित्रहार में भी जो गाने  
सलेक्ट किए जाते हैं उन गानों पर भी सेंशर-  
शिप लगाई जाए। मैं यही कहूँगी कि  
नग्नता, अश्लीलता हमारी भारतीय संस्कृति के  
बिल्कुल विरुद्ध है और उसमें महिलाओं को  
बहुत ज्यादा राधा है कि इस तरह के प्रोग्राम,  
फिल्में, चित्रहार जो कि परिवार के साथ  
बैठकर नहीं देखे जा सकते, उनको रोकना जाना  
चाहिए।

अभी एक बहुत अच्छा कार्यक्रम आकाशवाणी  
द्वारा शुरू हुआ है, मैं उसके लिए भी बधाई  
दूँगी। वह है—एयर फोन इन प्रोग्राम,  
जिसमें स्वास्थ्य के बारे में, सामाजिक समस्-  
याओं के बारे में, पर्यावरण के बारे में सूच-  
नाएं फोन पर प्रश्न पूछकर दी जाती हैं।  
यह आम जनता के लिए बहुत बढ़िया कार्यक्रम  
है। मैं कुछ सुझाव और मांगें रखना  
चाहूँगी जिसमें सुधार आना चाहिए। एच.  
पी.टी. और एन.पी.टी. के ट्रांसमीटर स्था-  
पित कर रहे हैं जिससे कि दूरदर्शन पर हमारा  
नेटवर्किंग बढ़े। यदि किसी क्षेत्र में एच.  
पी.टी. लगाने के लिए कहा जाता है तो मंत्री  
जी का जवाब आता है कि फंड नहीं है।  
तो मैं वित्त मंत्रालय से मांग करूँगी कि फंड  
दिया जाए। एक और सुझाव है, मैं बार-  
बार कह रही हूँ कि हम प्राइमरी अपने चैनल

बढ़ाते चले जाएं, एक-दो-तीन-चार अच्छे चैनल आम जनता को दिखाएं। तीन स्तर पर हम दूरदर्शन का विस्तार करें। एक, राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर, दूसरा, क्षेत्रीय स्तर पर और तीसरा, डिश या कॉबल पर। हमने इंसेट 2वीं को लांच किया। उसमें प्राइमरी चैनल तो था ही लेकिन मंदा चैनल आपने दिया और मांग है कि हर बड़े शहर में उसको दें। लेकिन मैं चाहूंगी कि हम प्राइमरी चैनल पर एक-दो-तीन-चार दें एक चैनल तो आपका है, दूसरा चैनल आप संगीत का दे सकते हैं, तीसरा स्पोर्ट्स का दे सकते हैं, चौथा शिक्षा का दे सकते हैं और पांचवां, विदेशियों के लिए अवश्य चैनल शुरू करें, जिसमें भारतीय परिस्थिति जिस पर हम गर्व करते हैं, क्योंकि जब विदेशी भारत आता है तो सिर्फ हमारी संस्कृति को देखने और समझने आता है और हमारे ऐसे बहुत से अप्रवासी भारतीय हैं तथा भारत के बारे में लोगों की उत्सुकता रहती है। तो मैं चाहूंगी कि जब अगला सेंटलाइट लांच हो तो अवश्य ही इंसेट 2वीं पर भी एक विदेशी चैनल का शुभारम्भ करें जिसमें हम अपने सांस्कृतिक आधारित प्रोग्राम दिखाएं। दूरदर्शन के सेक्टरशिप बोर्ड का नाम बदला है। तो उसके नाम में कुछ बातों की गलती है। यदि हम निष्पक्षतात्मक आजाए दें तो वह बहुत स्वीकार्य नहीं होती है। इसका नाम बदलकर हम नेशनल बोर्ड ऑफ सर्टिफिकेशन रख दें। यह ब्रिटिश समय से शुरू किया गया था। उन्होंने अपनी नीतियों के लिए ही शब्द का उपयोग किया था। अगर इनका नाम बदलें तो बहुत से सुधार हो सकते हैं। सेक्टर बोर्ड में महिलाएं भी हों 50 प्रतिशत तक। मीडिया में भी मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय और सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्रालय दोनों मिलकर एक मीडिया नीति तय करें। मीडिया नीति सही दिशा में हो और इसे दिशा दी जाए, यह आवश्यक है। मैं यह भी कहना चाहूंगी कि इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया के बढ़ते हुए विकास को देखते हुए आवश्यक है कि हम एक मीडिया काउंसिल का गठन करें क्योंकि बार-बार शिकायतें आती हैं और उनके लिए बार-बार कोर्ट में जाना संभव नहीं होता। तो बहुत जरूरी है कि एक मीडिया काउंसिल का गठन किया जाए।

Ministry of

मैं यह भी मांग करूंगी कि एक मीडिया विश्व-विद्यालय की स्थापना की जाए और इसके केन्द्र हर राज्य की राजधानी में अवश्य खोले जाएं।

मैं आपका ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहती हूँ कि रेडियो मैनूअल्स बहुत पुराने पड़ गए हैं, लगभग 100 वर्ष पुराने हैं। उनको बदला जाए, उनको अपडेट किया जाए। अभी मैं कल ही पढ़ रही थी कि आप एक संसद की एशिका निकालना चाहते हैं दूरदर्शन की। यह स्वागत योग्य है और हमारे कार्यक्रमों की जानकारी अवश्य दिखाई जानी चाहिए। मंत्री जी, जी संदेश आप पहले प्राइम टाइम पर देते थे, अब शायद देने बंद कर दिए हैं। मैं फिर कहूंगी कि जनसंख्या के बारे में, बढ़ती हुई एड्स बीमारी के बारे में, ड्रग्स के बारे में लोगों को चेतवनी देने के लिए बहुत आवश्यक है कि प्राइम टाइम पर ये विज्ञापन दिखाए जाएं। एक जनसंख्या घड़ी हम दिखाते थे, शायद अब सुबह-सुबह दिखाते हैं, उसमें बहुत जरूरी है कि जब जनसंख्या घड़ी दिखाई जाए तो उसके साथ दोला भी जाए कि कल की जनसंख्या क्या थी और आज की जनसंख्या क्या है और इन 24 घंटों में कितनी जनसंख्या बढ़ गई है। इससे एक वातावरण पैदा किया जा सकता जनसंख्या वृद्धि रोकने के लिए, जो बहुत जरूरी है।

आप रेडियो और दूरदर्शन का माडर्नाइजेशन कर रहे हैं और दूरदर्शन भी नयी-नयी योजनाओं के साथ आ रहा है और दूसरी तरफ हमारे माननीय सदस्यों ने विदेशी संस्कृति को बढ़ने हुए हमले के प्रति चिंता जाहिर की है। मेरा निवेदन है कि हम अपने कार्यक्रमों को एक नए रूप में लाएं और दूरदर्शन जिन उद्देश्यों को लेकर बनाया गया है—सामाजिक चेतना, विकास, शिक्षा और मनोरंजन—उन उद्देश्यों की प्राप्ति में वह पूर्ण रूप से सफल हो। इतना कहकर मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करती हूँ। धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : Shri Anant Ram Jaiswal, Your party's time is 8 minutes.

श्री अनन्त राम आयसबाब (उत्तर प्रदेश) :  
उप सभा अध्यक्ष महोदय, आपकी मेहरबानी से  
मैं थोड़ा ज्यादा समय लूंगा। माननीय उपसभा-  
ध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारा रेडियो और दूरदर्शन जो  
कार्यक्रम देते हैं, उनको देखकर एक विचार  
पैदा होता है कि जैसे यह सरकार अपने कार्यक्रम  
बनाने में, अपनी नीतियां चलाने में हिंदुस्तान  
के आम आदमी को नजर से ओझल कर देती  
है, वैसे ही दूरदर्शन और रेडियो के कार्यक्रम  
आम आदमी को नजर से ओझल कर देते हैं।  
पहले तो भाषा का ही मामला ले लीजिए। ये  
तो समझ में आता है कि अगर किसी अंग्रेजी  
जानने वाले मूलक के लिए कोई प्रसारण है,  
तब तो अंग्रेजी में प्रसारित किया जाए, लेकिन  
हमारे देश के लोगों के लिए उनकी अपनी  
मातृभाषा में कार्यक्रम दिए जाएं, राष्ट्रभाषा में  
दिए जाएं, राजभाषा में दिए जाएं तो बहुत  
अच्छा है। मेरा ख्याल है कि हिंदुस्तान के  
साधारण लोग चाहें जहाँ आप चले जाएँ,  
भारत के एक सिरे से दूसरे सिरे तक चल  
जाइए, अधिकांश लोग हिंदी जानते हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपको एक  
मिसाल देना चाहता हूँ। अभी थोड़े दिन  
पहले मैं अंडमान और निकोबार गया था। तो  
अंडमान और निकोबार में हर भाषा को जानने  
वाले लोग हैं। तमिल जानने वाले हैं, कन्नड़  
जानने वाले हैं, मलयालम जानने वाले हैं, बंगला  
जानने वाले हैं सभी भाषाओं के जानने वाले  
लोग हैं। वह अपने घरों में जब बात करते  
हैं तो अपनी मातृभाषा में करते हैं लेकिन  
जब सड़क पर आते हैं और एक दूसरे से बात-  
चीत करते हैं तो हिंदी में बातचीत करते हैं।  
काश जो अंडमान और निकोबार में हो रहा है  
वह पूरे देश में हो जाए। लेकिन सरकारी  
नीतियों के चलते हुए यह नहीं हो पाता है।  
दूरदर्शन इस काम को कर सकता है। रेडियो  
इस काम को कर सकता है लेकिन इन लोगों  
ने कभी इस जिम्मेदारी को नहीं समझा। इस  
संबंध में बहुत गलतफहमियाँ फैलाई जाती  
हैं।

मान्यवर, जब यहाँ अंग्रेज आए थे तब  
के लिए और जब कम्पनी का प्रभाव बढ़ने लगा  
तो उसके साथ बहुत से विद्वान भी इस देश में  
आए। उन्होंने इस देश में फूट डालने के

हमारी भाषाओं के अलग-अलग परिवार होने की  
बात गढ़ी। एक संस्कृत का और दूसरा द्रविड़  
स्कूल का। दक्षिण की भाषाओं को द्रविड़  
स्कूल की कहा गया और उत्तर की भाषाओं  
को संस्कृत परिवार की कहा गया। लेकिन  
क्या यह बात सही है? मैं अब से कहना  
चाहता हूँ कि यह बात सही नहीं है। दक्षिण  
भारत की भाषाओं की वर्णमाला को आप देखें,  
उनको अक्षरों को आप 90 डिग्री मोड़ कर  
मिलाकर देखें तो उनमें और देवनागरी के  
अक्षरों में बहुत फर्क नहीं होगा लेकिन हमने  
कभी अपने लोगों को बताया नहीं कि इनमें  
अंतर नहीं है।

दूसरी चीज यह है कि अगर हम अपने  
कम से कम 5 हजार साल के इतिहास को देखें  
तो हम कह सकते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान में आर्य,  
द्रविड़, मंगोल जैसी कोई चीज नहीं रही।  
लेकिन हमको अंग्रेजों ने यह पढ़ाया और आज  
तक यही बताया जा रहा है कि हमारे उत्तर-  
पूर्व की रियासतों के रहने वाले मंगोल नस्ल  
के हैं। दक्षिण वाले द्रविड़ नस्ल के थे और  
उत्तर भारत वाले आर्य हैं। सरकार और उसके  
लोग अपने इतिहास पर गौर नहीं करते हैं।  
यहाँ के लोगों जो अंग्रेज सिखा गए उसी की रटन  
कराते फिरते हैं। हम कहते हैं कि हमारा  
टी.पी. या इंफार्मेशन एंड ब्रूडकास्टिंग  
मिनिस्ट्री का क्या यह कर्तव्य नहीं है कि  
हिन्दुस्तान को एकजुट रखने के लिए यह सब  
करें। ऐसे भूमी को चलते हुए क्या हिन्दुस्तान  
एक रह सकता है? मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि  
इस ओर सरकार ने कभी कोशिश नहीं की।  
न इंफार्मेशन और ब्रूडकास्टिंग मिनिस्ट्री ने  
कभी कोशिश की कि ये जो भूतियाँ हैं इनको  
हटाना चाहिए, और इनको हटाकर देश की  
एकता सृष्ट करनी चाहिए।

उसी तरह से हिन्दू और मुसलमानों का  
सवाल है। इनके बारे में भी बड़ी गलत-  
फहमी है। माफ करूँगे मूझे बी.जे.पी. के  
लोग यह समझते हैं आज के भी मुसलमान  
विदेशी हैं।

श्री संघीप्रिय मौलाना : विदेशी तो सारी  
सरकार ही बता रहे हो आप....

**श्री अनन्त राम बाबुसवाल :** ऐसा नहीं है। यहां जो मुसलमान रहते आए हैं, सदियों से उनके साथ ऐसा नहीं है। कुछ मुसलमान शुरू में बाहर से आए थे। यहां रहते-रहते हिन्दू और मुसलमानों का खून इतना मिला हुआ है कि आज हम पूरी तरह से शुद्ध नहीं हैं। मिश्रित खून के लोग हैं। देखा जाए तो सब मिश्रित खून के लोग हैं। आज भी जो मुसलमान हैं उसको कहा जाए कि बाहर चले जाओ देश से, यह बहुत गलत चीज है। मैं इनको सुझाव देता हूँ कि इन कार्यक्रमों को आप पकड़ें। लेकिन यह कभी न गांधी को देखते हैं, न जयप्रकाश को देखते हैं, न लोहिया को देखते हैं जिन्होंने देश को बनाया, जिन्होंने आजादी की लड़ाई के लिए अपनी जान जोखिम में डाली। उनके भाषणों में जो चीजें मौजूद हैं उनको टी. वी. और रीडियो पर प्रसारित करने की कभी कोशिश नहीं की गई।

एक चीज मैं और कहना चाहता हूँ अपने बी. जे. बी. के भाइयों से। स्वामी विवेकानंद जब जा रहे थे अमरीका तो जाते-जाते वे जापान में रुक गए। जापान में रुकने के बाद वहाँ से श्री उन्होंने पत्र भेजा, आप उनको नव-जागरण का नेता मानते हैं, लेकिन उनकी कही हुई बातों पर ध्यान नहीं देते। उन्होंने वहाँ से पत्र लिखा था कि जापान की हालत को देखो। जापान के लोग किस तरह से कमर कस कर अपने देश को बनाने में जुटे हुए हैं और एक हमारा देश है वह साग-पात खाने वाले पेट की रांगी के राधों से भर गया है, जाति सम्प्रदाय को लेकर आपस में झगड़ते हैं लेकिन देश को बनाने की उनको चिंता नहीं है। कभी उनके हृत् जो पुराने हैं आसानी से भिल सकते हैं उस पर हाथ रख कर अगर उनका प्रसारण किया जाए तो देश को बहुत फायदा होगा। लेकिन इस चीज की तरफ इतका ध्यान नहीं जाता। मैं आई एंड बी के बारे में एक बात यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इनका प्रथम उद्देश्य लोगों को जानकारी देना है। जानकारी देने का मतलब सही जानकारी देना है और पूरी जानकारी देना है। अगर इस कसौटी पर इनको कसा जाए तो यह सही नहीं उतरते हैं जबकि आज के हालात में जब

सरकार के उदारकरण की नीति की चर्चा होती है, गेट करार की चर्चा होती है तो टेलीविजन और रीडियो पर कौन लोग चर्चा करते हैं? मणेशन लाये जाते हैं जो एक्स-सेक्टर की वाणिज्य विभाग हैं और दूसरे चिदम्बरम हमारे पूर्व वाणिज्य विभाग के मंत्री और कभी लाये जाते हैं खुसरो आदि वाली जो गेट के समर्थक लोग हैं खाली उनको ही लाया जाता है।

**श्री संघ प्रिय मोहन :** महेंद्र सिंह टिकैत को लाया जाता है।

**श्री अनन्त राम बाबुसवाल :** आपने सही बात कही कि महेंद्र सिंह टिकैत को नहीं लाया जाता है। उनके जरिये से लोगों की गुमराह किया जाता है, देश को गुमराह किया जाता है, किसानों को गुमराह किया जाता है लेकिन कभी हमारे जैसे लोगों को नहीं लाया जाता है। अगर चर्चा चलानी है तो ठीक से चलाइये। जानकारी अगर देना चाहते हैं तो सही जानकारी जो है तफसील में उसकी जानकारी बीजिए तभी देश का भला होगा। यही एक बड़ा कारण है जिससे सरकार अपना कब्जा आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन से नहीं हटाना चाहती है। इसीलिए प्रसार भारती बिल भी जो पास तो हो चुका है, आप सभी जानते हैं, लेकिन उसको लागू नहीं किया जाता। हमारा खाल है आज जो भी सब्सिडी इस पर बोला यहां पर उनमें ज्यादातर लोगों ने मांग की है कि इस बिल को लागू किया जाए। मैं भी अपनी पूरी ताकत से सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि इस बिल को लागू किया जाए।

थोड़ा कार्यक्रमों के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। जो कार्यक्रम दिखाये जाते हैं उन कार्यक्रमों को देखने से लगता है कि हमारे देश में शायद सस्ता मनोरंजन, भोंडा मनोरंजन ही रह गया है। यह इसलिए किया जाता है जिससे हमारे लोग जानकारी से दूर रहें, भ्रमित रहें, उनको जागरूक न बनाया जा सके, पूरे ऐसे कार्यक्रमों में ही सारा समय बिताया जाता है।

फिल्म संबंधी कार्यक्रमों के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। कभी किसी सितारे का परिचय कराते हैं, तो कभी चित्रहार आता है और काफी हिट म्काबला आता है। ऐसी चीजें

5.00 P.M.

आती रहती है। सुबह से शाम तक पूरे टेली-विजन के कार्यक्रमों में सिनेमा ही छाया रहता है। लगता है इससे ज्यादा महत्वपूर्ण चीज इस देश में रह ही नहीं गई है। जो सिनेमा के एक्टर और एक्ट्रेस हैं उनसे ज्यादा महत्वपूर्ण आदमी यहाँ पर न कोई है, न पहले था और न आगे आने वाला है। इस तरह से पेश किया जाता है पूरा का पूरा कार्यक्रम। इससे एक बात और साफ हो जाती है कि लोगों को सस्ता मनोरंजन मिल जाता है जो साधारण लोगों को शायद सरकार की मंशा यही है कि हमारे देश के लोग आगरूक न हो सकें, लोग इन बातों को समझें न और जैसे आज लोन, तेल, लकड़ी में फंसे रहते हैं उसी तरह से फंसे रहें। पहले ही लोग चूल्हा चक्की से ही नहीं बाहर निकल पाते हैं और वे स्वतंत्र होकर सोच नहीं पाते हैं वैसे ही यह भी एक तरीका है कि लोगों को सस्ते मनोरंजन में फंसा कर रखो। कालीदास को दिखाया जाये। जो स्तरीय साहित्य है वह पेश किया जाये। ये चीजें तो साजोबजादिर हैं। एक आध बार कभी-कभार हो गया तो हो गया। लेकिन इस तरह के सस्ते मनोरंजन में लोग ग़बह से लेकर शाम तक फंसे रहते हैं।

जहाँ तक लोगों की शिक्षा का सवाल है, लोगों की जानकारी का सवाल है, इस देश को मजबूत करने की बात है, अगर ऐसे कार्यक्रमों को हम देखें तो बहुत कम दिखायी देते हैं, यह मेरा सबसे बड़ा आरोप है। तो इसमें संधार कैसे होगा? इसमें संधार के लिये यहाँ बहुत से लोगों ने उपाय सुझाये। सबसे पहले संधार के लिये यह जरूरी है कि भारत सरकार वह धिष्ट लाये जिससे हमें अपने देश के बारे में दिल से सोचें—साल दो साल में—आप दरदर्शन देखिये, रेडियो सुनिये, समाचार-पत्रों को देखिये—कितना फर्क आ गया है, लगता है कि हम अपने देश में नहीं हैं, किसी दूसरे देश में हैं। मैं एक चीज कहना चाहता हूँ कि मोरे देशों की सभ्यता हमसे बिल्कुल अलग है। उनके लड़के-लड़कियाँ सयाने हाने पर मां-बाप से अलग रहते हैं। भियाँ बीबी अलग रहते हैं। उनके प्रेक्षे साथ नहीं रहते। वे हाली समय में इस तरह का सिनेमा अपने घरों में देख सकते हैं। लेकिन हमारे यहाँ

(समय की घंटी)... हमारे यहाँ मिला-जुला परिवार रहता है। अगर उसके साथ आज की फीचर फिल्म देखी जाये तो बहुत अटपटा लगता है तो क्या यह हमारी सभ्यता के अनुकूल है? उसकी अश्लीलता देखिये, और चीजों को देखिये। उनमें ऐसी चीजें हैं जिनको परिवार के सदस्यों के साथ बैठकर नहीं देखा जा सकता है। जो प्रमाण-पत्र सिनेमा का देते हैं उसको देने में इसका जरा भी ख्याल नहीं रखते हैं कि हमारी सभ्यता क्या है, हमारे संस्कृति क्या है, इसका तकाजा क्या है और जिस समाज में हम रह रहे हैं क्या वहाँ एक परिवार अपने बच्चों के साथ, प्रेक्षों के साथ बैठकर इसको देख सकता है या नहीं देख सकता है।

एक और बात जो एडवर्टाइजमेंट के बारे में है, अगर उन पर निगाह डालें तो लगता है कि साधारण आदमी इस देश में है ही नहीं। इन एडवर्टाइजमेंट्स का आम जनता के साथ क्या संबंध है? कोई बूढ़े का है, कोई बटर का है, कोई जैम का है, किसी तेल का है। हमारे घर की दीवारों का रंग कैसा हो, हमारा फ्रिज कैसा हो, हमारा टेलीविजन कैसा हो, साधारण आदमी का इससे क्या मतलब है। लेकिन इस तरह की उपभोक्ता वस्तुओं का विज्ञापन बराबर किया जाता है। मैं बार्निंग देना चाहता हूँ कि उपभोक्तावाद आदमी को लोभी बनाता है, आदमी को हिंसक बनाता है। आज लोभ की यह हालत है, हिंसा की यह हालत है? आज करप्शन, बड़ी-बड़ी ऊँची-ऊँची से लेकर नीचे तक, उनमें करप्शन दिखायी देता है। ये चीजें उपभोक्तावाद की हैं। इनको अगर हम अपने साधनों से ला सकते हैं तो लाते हैं, नहीं तो कोशिश करते हैं अनुचित तरीके से यह हमें मिले। ये ब्रिड्स उपभोक्तावाद को पैदा करती हैं। आखिर हमारी लड़कियाँ क्यों मारी जाती हैं? क्योंकि ससुराल वालों को उन लड़कियों से शिकायत होती है कि उसके दाप ने कलर टी.वी. नहीं दिया, फ्रिज नहीं दिया। कोई मोटर साइकिल के लिये लड़की को मारता है, कोई स्कूटर के लिये लड़की को मारता है। इस प्रकार से ये मौते होती हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : You have to conclude now because you have already taken 15 minutes. Your- time was 8 minutes. Minister has also to reply.

**श्री अनन्त राम जायसवाल :** आखिरी ज़ुलता कहकर समाप्त कर दूंगा ।

मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि उपभोक्तावाद लोभ को जन्म देता है, हिंसा को जन्म देता है । अगर ये चीज़ें बराबर चालू रहें, जैसे आज हैं और इस पर कोई रोक नहीं लगायी जाती है तो फिर आप समझिये कि हिंसा और बढ़ेगी और ज्यादा लड़कियां जलाकर मारी जायेंगी । हिंसा जब बढ़ेगी तब कोई महफूज नहीं रह सकेगा और आज जो सेक्यूरिटी ग्रे गवर्नमेंट के योग चल रहे हैं, शायद उनके लिये भी खतरा आ जाये । बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : Shri Tindivanam Venkatraman—not here. Shri Swaminathan.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the Annual Report has been given to us and also the Report of the Standing Committee on the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has been given to us. From all these Reports, what we could gather is that the activities of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for the year 1993-94 have been very beautifully brought out. There is a very beautiful photograph of the hon. Minister, particularly, of the Film Festival which was held in Calcutta. The hon. Minister looks like a film star. It is an excellent photograph.

Sir, as I said, the Standing Committee has also brought out a good report. The only point I would like to make here is this. Of course, the past activities have been referred to in the Annual Report. The point is, the activities during the last thirty-four years have to be gone into in the context of their relevance to the presentday. I say this because there is a lot of change taking place now. The hon. Member, Mr. Gujral, has also spoken about it. What is needed is a total review. What

the Department has done hitherto is one thing. What you are going to do today and what you are going to do tomorrow are entirely different. Therefore, when we talk about the past activities, even though they have their own importance, at the same time, their relevance to the present-day changes has to be gone into. Take, for example, the question of budgetary allocation. We know in what manner it had been done on previous occasions; what had been done last year and what is going to be done next year. I do not know whether the zero budgeting system has been adopted. Another thing is whether certain Divisions are necessary at all. This question has also to be gone into. I would like to mention, particularly, about the Publications Division. Much has been said about 'Yojana'. Much has been said about the Publications Division. I do not know how many copies are being sold. I do not know whether the things that are brought out by the Publications Division are being sold. Of course, some exhibitions are conducted. Some 2,000-3,060 copies might be sold. I do not know which is the target audience. Even when you are selling it, I do not know how many people would be able to purchase it. All these things have to be gone into.

Sir, before a discussion of this nature is taken up in the Rajya Sabha, we would also like to have a note or a paper on the basis of which we could have a discussion. In the Lok Sabha, the discussion is mainly centered on the Demands for Grants, apart from the Annual Report. It has a different connotation in the Lok Sabha. When it comes to the Rajya Sabha, when we discuss the Ministry as a whole, we should have a background paper so that we could discuss the performance of the Ministry on the basis of that. Here, I would like to say that the hon. Minister has done very well. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, you, yourself, have said when you spoke. I would also like to congratulate the hon. Minister for the way he has been handling this Ministry. This is one thing. Another thing is that he has also Seen

maintaining very close relations with the Members of Parliament. He has been taking note of our suggestions and has been implementing them to the best of his capacity, whatever suggestions were given by us. He has been very receptive to the various suggestions made to him. Still, I would say that when we take up this discussion, we would like to know as to what the Ministry is going to do in the future. This is more important than what it has done in the past. What the Ministry is going to do in the future is more important.

Sir, the future is very important because many things are happening now. We have read about it in the newspapers. Mr. Gujral has also spoken about the foreign newspapers. We have read in the newspapers about the visit of many Press personalities to India. Many media Moghuls have visited India during the months of February and March. Many important persons connected with the foreign Press and satellite television have visited this country. There was the visit of Mr. Rupert Murdoch. I think this is how he spells his name. He is an Australian. He is from the Star T.V. He came over here. Four-live days before his arrival in India, much was talked about his visit. He came here and met many important persons. He gave parties to industrialist. He also met the Prime Minister as well as the Minister of Information and Broadcasting. Soma of them also met our Vice-President. Now, I would like to know what was the nature of the discussions Mr. Rupert Murdoch had with our Prime Minister, with the officials of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and with the other dignitaries. I would also like to know whether this is going to be reflected in what we are going to in the future. This is the most important point.

Immediately after the visit of Mr. Rupert Murdoch—he was a person who had a flair for publicity—another person came to India and went away quietly. Perhaps, he did not like publicity. He is—also an Australian. This gentleman's

name is Kerry Packer. He also came here. He met some important persons; not the Ministry officials; I think, some industrialists. And then this Ted Turner of CNN came here. I think it was in the month of February, March or April. I think he had also a meeting with the Prime Minister and, most probably, he had a meeting with our Vice-President also. I read it in the papers that he met the Vice-President and there was a lot of discussion going on.

Again there was a talk about the BBC. The BBC people came here and they wanted to have something like a Hindi news tie-up. That is also another report which we have heard. We have also heard about the Disney tie-up. The press published that also. So, these are the four or five things that happened during February and March, about which nothing is said in the booklet, or no information has been passed on to us. I think all these will have far-reaching effect on Doordarshan in the days to come.

Something has been said about invasion from the skies and also that the Jain TV and Z-TV are, in their own way, going to bring out news. So news as it is will not be the preoccupation only of Doordarshan. From the satellite TV they will also be giving so many news items, and that will have an impact on the people.

Then there has been a talk about the industrialists. These are all things that we have heard. Now it is up to the Minister to inform us. We have also heard that some of the industrialists are prevailing on them to have their own stations. Once privatization has come, once the channels have been opened for outside TV, now internally also people are asking why the TV should be monopolized by the Government. The Government may need a TV, it may need a broadcasting station for its own purposes, but then you allow others also to start their own TV. Now, some of the State Governments are there. Suppose the Central Government Wants their information

to teach the people, why can't the State Government also have their own TV because when the Centre has got a view of its own, the State also has got its own view. You know it pretty well, Sir—and it is a known fact—that as long as a State Government is in good coordination with the Central Government, the news items about that State Government and the way in which the State Government is projected, go in a particular manner. Suppose tomorrow there is a quarrel between the State Government and the Central Government, sometimes the news item does not appear, sometimes it is tardy, sometimes it is very slanting and sometimes it gives out a different impression to the people. And sometimes the TV people do not come to the big functions at all, and the State Governments had to protest. I am not talking only of the Tamil Nadu Government. I think, even from West Bengal there have been some protests to the Centre that Doordarshan had been very partial regarding coverage of the State Government functions. Wherever a State Government is not in good cooperation with the Centre, this is happening. So I want to know whether privatization will be allowed within our country also and whether individuals also will be allowed, apart from the Doordarshan having it. You have not yet decided whether Doordarshan should function independently, like the BBC. That decision has never been taken. The Prasar Bharati Act, which has been passed, is pending. When Upendraji was the Minister this Bill came and it was passed, I do not know what the view of the Government is. Over a period of three years we have not heard anything about it. Are you going to have an independent channel like the BBC, or are you handing it over to an independent corporation? That also we want to know. And, supposing you want to keep it in your own hands, will you allow private people also, including the State Governments, to take this up?

Regarding the INSAT-2B channels, we are very happy that some additional channels have been opened. The hon.

Minister has said that from 15th August 1993, new channels have come. He also said that since the new channels have come, everybody should have a dish antenna. Everybody cannot have a dish antenna. Naturally their telecasts have to come through the usual cable TV people. But the cable TV people are more interested in the other TVs and they are not relaying your channels. So, the point is that even though you are saying that you were showing all these things from the 15th of August, 1993, none of us in Madras or mofussil places or even in Delhi is able to see any of your channels. You should have your own arrangements. What kind of arrangements are you going to make to see that the people are able to enjoy the TV programmes? This is very important.

Doordarshan may be showing these things, but the additional channels are not to the benefit of the people concerned. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what exactly he is going to do in this connection.

Another thing is about the satellite language service of two-and-a-half hours daily. We are very happy about it. Sitting in Delhi at 9-30 AM we are able to see the Tamil language service. It is for one or one-and-a-half hours. In the evening also we have got it for an hour. Some Tamil films are being shown. Films in ten languages are being shown. We are very happy.

One point I would like to say about it. I do not know how an it is correct. I am told that beyond ten to fifteen kilometres it cannot be seen. A senior lady officer from the All India Radio phoned me up the other day. I asked her whether she was able to see the Doordarshan language service. She said, "No, no. I am not able to see it because I am 20 kilometres away." Then only I came to know that it is for a very small area. Because I am living in Canning Lane, I am able to see it. That can be seen only around the Parliament House. So, I want to know the proposal of the Minister to extend the area of this service.



We are not able to see the Metro channel also. That also is not having a good coverage.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : Kindly conclude.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN : Finally, Sir, I would again congratulate the hon. Minister for the very good work he has been doing and wish that he would give a much better service to the people concerned. I also hope that he will be able to give us his ideas regarding the various points I have raised, about which all the people want to know what exactly is going to happen to Doordarshan in the years to come.

Thank you.

श्री जलालुद्दीन अंसारी (बिहार) : उपसभा-ध्यक्ष महोदय, सूचना और प्रसारण विभाग के संबंध में मुझे यह कहना है कि ज्ञान, विज्ञान और तकनीकी क्षेत्र में काफी बदलाव आए हैं और इसके कारण मीडिया के क्षेत्र में भी बहुत बड़े परिवर्तन हुए हैं और इस परिवर्तन को ध्यान में रखते हुए अपने देश के अंदर दूर-दर्शन आकाशवाणी को और भी सशक्त बनाने की आवश्यकता है। यह सही है कि इस विभाग ने और इसके मंत्री ने कुछ प्रयास किया है, लेकिन जितना बड़ा यह देश है, जितने तरह की भाषाएँ हैं, इतने तमाम भाषाओं में इसका सही प्रसारण हो और जनता को सही सूचना मिल सके यह एक सामाजिक दायित्व भी है अपने देश की जनता को लिए सूचना और प्रसारण विभाग की तरफ से। जहाँ तक प्रश्न है कि हमारा सूचना और प्रसारण विभाग और खास कर यह दूरदर्शन उपभोक्तावाद का शिकार हो रहा है और इसके कारण जो सामाजिक दायित्व है, उन दायित्वों को पूरा करने के लिए जो प्रक्रिया उठाना चाहिए वह नहीं हो पा रहा है और इस उपभोक्तावाद के चलते हमारी जनता पर इसका बहुत बुरा असर भी पड़ रहा है। मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि मुनाफा कमाना इनका मुख्य लक्ष्य है। आप रुपया कमाने के लिए

कार्यक्रम कर रहे हैं। मुनाफा कमाना जरूरी है, साधन जुटाना जरूरी है, लेकिन मुनाफे के कारण कार्यक्रम पर न आपका कोई प्रभाव है और न नियंत्रण, यह एक गंभीर सवाल है। इसके जो दुष्परिणाम हो रहे हैं, यह आप देखेंगे तो इनके कार्यक्रम में हत्या, बलात्कार दिखाया जाता है। अश्लील चित्रों, अश्लील गीतों और अश्लील फिल्मों को दिखाया जाता है जिसका हमारे बच्चों पर बुरा प्रभाव पड़ रहा है। वह पश्चिमी सभ्यता और संस्कृति को नकल कर रहे हैं। हमारे मंत्रीजी महोदय मौजूद हैं, मैं कहना चाहूंगा पूरे सदन के सामने कि पश्चिमी सभ्यता और संस्कृति को नकल बंद कीजिए। हमारी संस्कृति की महान विरासतों का प्रचार अपने देश और विदेशों में कीजिए। क्या इसके लिए आपने कोई अपने यहां दूरदर्शन का चैनल बनाया है? जब "स्टार" टी.वी. हमारे देश में हलचल पैदा कर सकता है दूरदर्शन के क्षेत्र में, दूसरे टी.वी. और "केबल" टी.वी. हमारे देश में हलचल पैदा कर सकते हैं तो हम अपने देश से, अपनी सभ्यता और संस्कृति को विदेशों में प्रसारित नहीं कर सकते? हमें इसको लिए प्रयास करना चाहिए और अगर आप प्रयास करेंगे तो निश्चित तौर पर आपको सफलता मिलेगी।

महोदय, इसी सिलसिले में यह भी कहना है कि कुछ बहुत ही अश्लील वीडियो "ब्लू" फिल्में दिखायी जाती हैं। इसी दिल्ली शहर में जो सिटी बसेस चलती हैं, उनमें आप गानों के कैसेट सुनिए जोकि बहुत ही गंदे होते हैं। उन्हीं बसेस में हमारे बच्चे और बच्चियाँ आती-जाती हैं। उन पर इन गानों के कैसेट्स का क्या प्रभाव पड़ता है? क्या उसको आप रोकेंगे? हमारा सुझाव है कि इस तरह की चीजों पर आप रोक लगाएँ जोकि हमारी नयी पीढ़ी के लिए बहुत ही आवश्यक है।

महोदय, अभी जबकि राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम और क्षेत्रीय कार्यक्रम दोनों दिखाए जाते हैं, तो राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम तो अच्छे होते हैं जोकि दिल्ली दूरदर्शन से दिखाए जाते हैं। हम आखिरी मंदकर आपकी आलोचना और विरोध नहीं करना चाहते। मेरा कहना यह है कि राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम तो अच्छे दिखाए जा रहे हैं, लेकिन जो जेनरल दूरदर्शन है, उनकी दूरदर्शा हो रही है। महोदय, मैं बिहार का रहने वाला हूँ। पटना में रहता था और वहाँ की यह हालत है कि वहाँ दूरदर्शन पर जो अनाउंसमेंट करता है, प्रसारण करता है, वह बार-बार बदल जाते हैं जिससे यह मालूम होता है कि उन्हें पैरवी और भ्रष्ट तरीके से लाया जाता है। उसकी आवाज नहीं निकलती है, वह उच्चारण सही नहीं कर सकता है और गलत बोलता है। आप इसकी जांच करवाएं। क्या बिहार में वैसे बोलने वाले लोगों की कमी है कि वह दूरदर्शन से सही तरीके से प्रसारण का काम कर सकें, लेकिन निश्चित तौर पर आप भेदभाव करते हैं। चयन में भ्रष्ट तरीके अपनाए जाते हैं। आप पैरवी का सहारा लेते हैं जिससे कि सक्षम लोगों का चयन नहीं हो पाता और वे अस्थायी तौर पर या प्रयोग के तौर पर कुछ दिन रहते हैं, फिर हट जाते हैं। मेरा कहना है कि इस तरह से आप दूरदर्शन की क्षमता नहीं बढ़ा सकते। इस बारे में भी आप ध्यान दीजिए। महोदय, राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम को अच्छे होने की चर्चा मैंने की, लेकिन क्षेत्रीय कार्यक्रम आम तौर पर अच्छे नहीं होते हैं। इसके पीछे कारण यह है कि जिस कार्यक्रम पर अधिक पैसा खर्च किया जाता है, वह स्वाभाविक ही है कि अच्छा होगा और जिस पर कम पैसे खर्च किए जाते

हैं, वह निश्चित तौर पर अच्छे कार्यक्रम नहीं होंगे। तो मैं चाहूँगा कि आप कार्यक्रमों को अच्छा बनाने में सही तरीका अपनाएं और कार्यक्रम अच्छा हो सके, इस पर ध्यान दें। मेरा सुझाव है कि इस कार्य के लिए आप अच्छे तरीके अपनाएं। दूसरी बात, हमें यह कहनी है कि आप पक्षपात करते हैं। राष्ट्रीय नेताओं के कार्यक्रमों में हम देखते हैं कि कांग्रेस और भा.ज.पा. को बहुत उछाला जाता है, लेकिन अन्य राष्ट्रीय पार्टियों के कार्यक्रमों की बिल्कुल उपेक्षा की जाती है, वहाँ भेदभाव बरता जाता है। अभी इसी महीने 5 तारीख को उन संगठनों के राष्ट्रीय मंच का दिल्ली में प्रदर्शन हुआ। पुलिस ने बरेहमी से घेराबंदी करके उनकी पिटाई की, लेकिन हमने खुद देखा टी.वी. पर, एक झलक दिखा दिया, ऐसा मालूम होता था जैसे दिल्ली में कुछ हुआ ही नहीं। अगर कहीं कांग्रेस का होना या भा.ज.पा. का होगा तो लंबा चौड़ा दिखा देते हैं। आप यह क्यों करते हैं? आप पक्षपात करते हैं, भेदभाव बरतते हैं। इसी तरह राष्ट्रीय नेताओं के सक्षात्कार लेने में भी आप राष्ट्रीय पार्टियों के साथ भेदभाव करते हैं, पक्षपात करते हैं। हमारा सुझाव है कि आप इस ओर ध्यान दें और यह भेदभाव की नीति को छोड़ दें।

कार्यक्रम के निर्धारण और कार्यक्रम देने में भी भ्रष्ट तरीके अपनाए जाते हैं। कार्यक्रम निर्धारण और कार्यक्रम देने में जो गलत तरीके अपनाए जा रहे हैं, उसके बारे में भी हम भंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहेंगे कि आप इसको सही तरीके अपना कर व्यवस्था को दुरुस्त करें। इस प्रकार के गलत तरीके बंद होने चाहिए। जैसे आपने भारत और पाकिस्तान का क्रिकेट मंच हुआ, वह नहीं चिखता,

लॉकिन स्टार टी.वी. ने दिखाया। आप क्यों नहीं दिखाते हैं ऐसे कार्यक्रम? स्टार टी.वी. दिखाता है तो उसके देखेंगे लोग। हमको याद है, 6 दिसम्बर, 92 को जो घटना अयोध्या में घटी, उसको हमारे टी.वी. ने बहुत बाद में दिखाया, जबकि स्टार टी.वी. ने एक बजे ही दिखा दिया कि भस्मिन् ध्वस्त हो गई है। तो लोग आपके चैनल का इस्तेमाल क्यों करेंगे? स्टार टी.वी. और दूसरे चैनल का ही इस्तेमाल करेंगे। आपके दूरदर्शन और रीडियो का क्या होगा? इसका विकास कैसे होगा? इसलिए इस ओर भी आप ध्यान दीजिए ताकि सही तरीकों से चीजों को रखा जा सके।

इसी सिलसिले में मुझे यह भी कहना है कि आपके विभाग में कुछ ऐसे पदाधिकारी होंगे, जिनका परीक्षण तरीके से संबंध है इन विदेशी चैनलों के साथ और उससे मिलकर वह दूरदर्शन के कार्यक्रमों को सैंडोटेज करना चाहते हैं ताकि विदेशी चैनल आगे बढ़ें और अपना दूरदर्शन पीछे जाए, इसके प्रति लोगों का आकर्षण न हो, बदनाम हो। यही कारण है कि अपने देश के अंदर जो सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में उपक्रम हैं उनको बदनाम किया गया और इसमें नौकरशाही का एक हिस्सा निश्चित तौर से उसको बदनाम करने की कोशिश करता है। मुझे आशा है कि कुछ लोग निश्चित तौर पर विदेशी टी.वी. के साथ मिलकर के इस दूरदर्शन का सर्वनाश करना चाहते हैं। हम चाहेंगे कि मंत्री महोदय इस ओर तुरन्त ध्यान दें।

अन्त में, मेरा सुझाव यह है कि इसकी भाषा सुधारी जानी चाहिए। वह शैली, वह गलत तरीके की भाषा का इस्तेमाल नहीं होना चाहिए। हमारे देश की भाषा, जिसको

हिन्दुस्तानी भाषा कहते हैं और जिसमें हिन्दी, उर्दू और दूसरी भाषाएं होती हैं, वह मजबूत भाषा है, उसका इस्तेमाल कीजिए। प्रेमचन्द की भाषा का इस्तेमाल कीजिए। इसमें आपके क्या एतराज है? हम चाहेंगे कि भाषा पर जरूर ध्यान जाना चाहिए।

इसके अलावा आप एक समिति गठित करें, जिसमें कलाकार, भाषाविद्, शिक्षाविद् हों, चाहे उसे सलाहकार कमेटी या जो नाम दीजिए, ऐसी कमेटी हो, जो विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में दिशानिर्देश किया करे, मदद किया करे ताकि दूरदर्शन की क्षमता को, उसके कार्यक्रमों को सही ढंग से दिखाया जा सके।

एक बात मुझे यह भी कहनी है कि यह सेंसर की प्रक्रिया टी.वी. पर आप अपनाएं। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि सेंसर बोर्ड गठित कीजिए, लेकिन सही ढंग से चीजों को दिखाया जा रहा है या नहीं, किन चीजों को दिखाया जाना चाहिए, इसको देखने के लिए एक सेंसर की प्रक्रिया आपको जरूर अपनानी चाहिए। अगर नहीं अपनाएंगे तो निश्चित तौर पर इसकी क्षमता को, इसके कार्यक्रमों को आप आकर्षक नहीं बना सकेंगे और जो इस तरह की चीजें अभी दी जा रही हैं, जिसकी चर्चा हमारे मित्रों ने की है, यह हमारी नई पीढ़ी के लोगों पर बुरा असर डालेगी, दूरदर्शन और आकाशवाणी का जो दायित्व है अपने देश की शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में, सामाजिक विकास के क्षेत्र में, सांस्कृतिक विकास के क्षेत्र में, उस दायित्व को दूरदर्शन और आकाशवाणी पूरा नहीं कर सकेंगी।

इन्हीं सुझावों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

شری جلال الدین انصاری "ہمارا آپ بھگا  
ادھیکش نہوئے سوچنا اور پرسان و بھاگ  
کے سہندھ میں مجھے یہ کہنا ہے کہ گمان و گمان  
اور تکنیکی کشیدہ میں کافی بدلاؤ آئے ہیں اور  
اس کے کارن میڈیا کے کشیدہ میں بھی  
بہت بڑے پرلورتن ہوئے ہیں اور اس  
پرلورتن کو دھیان میں رکھتے ہوئے اپنے  
دیش کے اندر دور درشن - آکاشوائی کو اور  
بھی سٹلٹ بنانے کی آوشیکتا ہے۔ یہ  
صحیح ہے کہ اس و بھاگ نے اور اس کے  
منتری نے کچھ پرایس کیا ہے لیکن جتنا بڑا  
یہ دیش ہے جتنی طرح کی بھاشائیں ہیں۔  
ان تمام بھاشاؤں میں اس کا صحیح پرسان  
ہو اور جتنا کو صحیح سوچنا مل سکے یہ ایک  
ساما جک دانتو بھی ہے اپنے دیش کی جنتا  
کے لئے سوچنا اور پرسان و بھاگ کی طرف  
سے جہاں تک پرشن ہے کہ ہمارا سوچنا اور پرسان  
و بھاگ اور خاص کر یہ دور درشن آپ بھوگتا  
واد کا شمار ہو رہا ہے اور اس کے کارن جو  
ساما جک دانتو ہے ان دانتو کو پورا کرنے  
کے لئے جو پری کر یہ اٹھانا چاہیے وہ نہیں  
ہو پار رہے اور اس آپ بھوگتا واد کے  
چلتے ہماری جنتا پر اس کا بہت اثر بھی پڑ رہا  
ہے۔ مجھے ایسا لگتا ہے کہ منافع کمانا ان کا  
مکھتہ نکشے ہے۔ آپ روپیہ کمانے کے لئے

کار یہ کرم کر رہے ہیں۔ منافع کمانا ضروری  
ہے سادھن جٹانا ضروری ہے۔ لیکن منافع  
کے کارن کار یہ کرم پر نہ آپ کا کوئی پر بھاؤ  
ہو رہا ہے اور نہ غنترن یہ ایک گھبیر سوال  
ہے۔ اس کے جو درشن پرینام ہوئے ہیں یہ  
آپ دیکھیں گے تو ان کے کار یہ کرم میں  
ہتیا۔ بلا تکار دکھایا جاتا ہے۔ اٹلیل جیڑوہ۔  
اٹلیل گیتوں اور اسے شلیل فلموں کو دکھایا  
جاتا ہے۔ جس کا کہ ہمارے بچوں پر بڑا بھاؤ  
پڑ رہا ہے۔ وہ پشچی سبھیتا اور سنسکرتی  
کی نقل کر رہے ہیں۔ ہمارے منتری ہی موجود  
ہیں۔ میں کہنا چاہوں گا پورے سدن کے  
سامنے کہ پشچی سبھیتا اور سنسکرتی کی نقل  
بند کھینچے۔ ہماری سنسکرتی کی تہاں وراثتوں  
کا پرچار اپنے دیش اور ورشیوں میں کیجئے  
کیا اس کے لئے آپ نے کوئی اپنے یہاں  
دور درشن کا چینل بنایا ہے۔ جب اسٹار  
ٹی وی ہمارے دیش میں لمچل پیدا کر  
سکتا ہے۔ دور درشن کے کشیدہ میں دوسرے  
ٹی وی اور کیبل ٹی وی ہمارے دیش میں  
لمچل پیدا کر سکتے ہیں تو ہم اپنے دیش  
سے اپنی سبھیتا اور سنسکرتی کو ورشیوں میں  
پر سارت نہیں کر سکتے۔ ہمیں اس کے لئے  
پرایس کرنا چاہیے اور اگر آپ پرایس کریں گے  
تو بشت طور پر آپ بھولتا ملے گی۔

مہوڑے، اسی سلسلے یہ بھی کہنا ہے کہ  
کچھ بہت ہی اے شلیل و دیگر یو بلو فلیس  
دکھائی جاتی ہے۔ اسی دلی شہر میں جو سٹی  
بیسز چلتی ہیں ان میں آپ کانوں کے کسٹس  
سننے جو بہت ہی گند سے ہوتے ہیں انہیں  
بسنر میں ہمارے نیچے اور پتیاں آتی جاتی  
ہیں ان پر ان کانوں کے کسٹس کا کیا پھاد  
پڑتا ہے کیا اس کو آپ روکیں گے ہمارا  
سمجھتا ہے کہ اس طرح کی چیزوں پر آپ  
روک لگائیں جو کہ ہماری نئی پیڑھی کیلئے  
بہت ہی اؤٹریک ہے۔

مہوڑے۔ اب جبکہ راشٹریہ کاریہ کرم  
اور کشتریہ کاریہ کرم دونوں دکھائے جاتے  
ہیں تو راشٹریہ کاریہ کرم تو اچھے ہوتے  
ہیں جو کہ دلی دور درشن سے دکھائے جاتے  
ہیں۔ ہم آنکھ موند کر آپکی آکوپنا اور وردھ  
نہیں کرنا چاہتے ہیں۔ میرا کہنا یہ ہے کہ  
راشٹریہ کاریہ کرم تو اچھے دکھائے جا رہے  
ہیں لیکن جو زونل دور درشن میں انکی درشا  
ہو رہی ہے۔

مہوڑے۔ میں بہار کا رہنے والا ہوں  
یٹنہ میں رہتا تھا اور وہاں کی یہ حالت ہے  
کہ وہاں دور درشن پر انٹوٹسمنٹ کرنا ہے  
پر سارن کو نلہ ہے وہ بار بار بدل جاتے ہیں  
جس سے یہ معلوم ہوتا ہے کہ انہیں پیڑھی

اور بھرٹھ طریقہ سے لایا جاتا ہے۔ اس کی  
آواز نہیں نکلتی ہے وہ اچارن صحیح نہیں  
کر سکتا ہے اور غلط بولتا ہے۔ آپ اس کی  
جانچ کروائیں۔ کیا بہار میں ویسے بولنے  
والے لوگوں کی کمی ہے کہ وہ دور درشن سے  
صحیح طریقہ سے پر سارن کا کام کر سکیں لیکن  
نشچت طور پر آپ بھید بھاد کرتے ہیں  
تیس میں بھرٹھ طریقہ اپنائے جاتے ہیں  
آپ پیڑھی کا سہارا لیتے ہیں جس سے کہ  
سکشم لوگوں کا چین نہیں ہو پاتا اور وہ  
استھانی طور پر یا پریوگ کے طور پر کچھ  
دن رہتے ہیں پھر سٹ جاتے ہیں۔ میرا  
کہنا ہے کہ اس طرح سے آپ دور درشن  
کی اکتھتا نہیں بڑھا سکتے۔ اس بارے  
میں بھی آپ دھیان رکھتے۔ مہوڑے۔

راشٹریہ کاریہ کرم کے اچھے ہونے کی چیز  
میں نے کی لیکن کشتریہ کاریہ کرم عام طور  
پر اچھے نہیں ہوتے ہیں۔ اس کے پیچھے کارن  
یہ ہے کہ جس کاریہ کرم پر ادھک پیسہ خرچ  
کیا جاتا ہے وہ سوا بھاوک ہی ہے کہ اچھا  
جو گا جس پر کم پیسے خرچ کئے جاتے ہیں وہ  
نشچت طور پر اچھے کاریہ کرم نہیں ہونگے  
تو میں چاہوں گا کہ آپ کاریہ کرم کو  
اچھا بنانے میں صحیح طریقہ اپنائیں اور  
کاریہ کرم اچھا ہو سکے اس پر دھیان دیں۔

میرا سمجھاؤ ہے کہ اس کاریہ کے لئے آپ  
اچھے طریقہ اپنائیں۔

دوسری بات یہیں یہ کہنی ہے کہ  
آپ پکشن پات کرتے ہیں۔ راشٹریہ نیتاؤں  
کے کاریہ کمروں میں ہم دیکھتے ہیں کہ کانگریس  
اور بھاجپا کو بہت اچھا لگتا ہے لیکن  
اشٹریہ راشٹریہ پارٹیوں کے کاریہ کمروں کی  
بالکل اسپیکش کی جاتی ہے وہاں بھید بھاؤ  
برتا جاتا ہے۔ ابھی اسی مہینہ ۵ مارچ کو  
جن سنگھٹن جو راشٹریہ میچ تھے۔ ان کا  
پر درشن ہوا۔ پولیس نے بے رحمی سے گھیر بند  
کر کے انہی پرائی کی۔ لیکن ہم نے خود دیکھا  
ٹی وی پر ایک جھٹک دکھا دیا ایسا معلوم  
ہوتا تھا کہ جیسے دلی میں کچھ ہوا ہی نہیں  
اگر کہیں کانگریس کا ہو گا یا بھاجپا کا ہو گا تو  
لہبا چڑا دکھا دیتے ہیں۔ آپ یہ کہتے کیا  
ہیں۔ آپ پکشن پات کرتے ہیں۔ بھید بھاؤ  
برتتے ہیں یا سی طرح راشٹریہ نیتاؤں کے  
ساکشاکار لینے میں بھی آپ راشٹریہ پارٹیوں  
کے ساتھ بھید بھاؤ کرتے ہیں۔ پکشن پات  
کہتے ہیں۔ ہمارا سمجھاؤ ہے کہ آپ اس طرف  
دھیان دیں اور یہ بھید بھاؤ کی نیستی  
چھوڑ دیں۔

کاریہ کم کے نردھارن اور کاریہ کم  
دینے میں بھی بھر شٹ طریقہ اپناتے جاتے

ہیں۔ کاریہ کم نردھارن اور کاریہ کم دینے  
میں جو غلط طریقہ اپناتے جاتے ہیں اس کے  
بالے میں بھی ہم شٹری نہ ہونے سے کہنا چاہیں  
گئے کہ آپ اس کو صحیح طریقہ سے اپنا کر دیو سٹھا  
کو درست کریں۔ اس پر کار کے غلط طریقہ بند  
ہونے چاہئیں۔ جیسے آپ نے بھارت اور  
پاکستان کا کوکٹ میچ جو ہوا وہ نہیں دکھایا  
لیکن اشار ٹی وی نے دکھایا۔ آپ کیوں  
نہیں دکھاتے ہیں ایسے کاریہ کم۔ اشار ٹی وی  
دکھاتا ہے تو اس کو دیکھیں گے لوگ ہم کو  
یاد ہے ۶ دسمبر ۹۲ کو جو گھٹنا ایدھیا میں  
گھٹی اس کو بھاری ٹی وی نے بہت بعد  
میں دکھایا جبکہ اشار ٹی وی نے ایک بجے  
ہی دکھا دیا کہ مسجد دھوڑت ہو گئی ہے تو  
لوگ آپ کے چینل کا استعمال کیوں کریں گے  
اشار ٹی وی اور دوسرے چینل کا ہی استعمال  
کریں گے۔ آپ کے دور درشن اور ٹی وی کا  
کہا ہو گا۔ اس کا وکاس کیسے ہو گا۔ اس لئے  
اس طرف بھی آپ دھیان دیجئے تاکہ صحیح  
طریقہ سے چیزوں کو رکھا جاسکے۔

ابھی سلسلے میں مجھے یہ بھی کہنا ہے کہ آپ  
وہاں میں کچھ ایسے پرا دھیکاری ہوں گے  
جن کا پر ویش طریقہ سے سمجھ رہے ہیں۔ ان پر  
چینلوں کے ساتھ اور اس سے مل کر وہ  
دور درشن کے کاریہ کمروں کو سمونج کرنا چاہتے

ہیں تاکہ وڈیشی چینل آجے بڑھے اور اپنا  
دور درشن پیچھے جائے۔ اس کے پرتی لوگوں  
کا آکشن نہ ہو بدنام ہو۔ یہی کارن ہے  
کہ اپنے دیش کے اندر جو سار وڈینک اکشیر  
میں اکبرم ہیں ان کو بدنام کیا گیا اور اس میں  
نوکر شاہی ایک حصہ نشچت طور سے اس کو  
بدنام کرنے کی کوشش کرتا ہے۔ مجھے اشنکا  
ہے کہ کچھ لوگ نشچت طور پر وڈیشی ٹی وی  
کے ساتھ مل کر کے اس دور درشن کا فرواش  
کونا چاہتے ہیں۔ ہم چاہیں گے کہ مٹری ہونے  
اس طور ترنت دھیان دیں۔

انت میں میرا سمجھاؤ یہ ہے کہ اس کی  
بھاشا سہاری جانی چاہیے۔ وہ شیلی، وہ  
غلط طریقہ کی بھاشا کا استعمال نہیں ہونا  
چاہیے۔ ہمارے دیش کی بھاشا جس کو ہندوستانی  
بھاشا کہتے ہیں اور جس میں ہندی اردو  
اور دوسری بھاشائیں ہوتی ہیں وہ مضبوط  
بھاشا ہے اس کا استعمال کیجئے۔ یہ کم چنہ  
کی بھاشا کا استعمال کیجئے اس میں آپ کو کیا  
اعتراف ہے ہم چاہیں گے کہ بھاشا پر ضرور دھیان  
جانا چاہیئے۔

اس کے علاوہ آپ ایک سمیتی گٹھت کریں  
جس میں کلاکار بھاشا وید، شکشا وید، بھاشا  
اسے صلاح کار میٹھی یا جو نام دیکھتے ایسی کمیٹی  
ہو جو ویدمن اکشیروں میں دشا تریش کیا کھ

مور کیا کرے تاکہ دور درشن کی اکشمتا کو اس کے  
کار یہ کموں کو صحیح ڈھنگ سے دکھایا جاسکے۔  
ایک بات مجھے یہ بھی کہنی ہے کہ سنسری وی  
پر آپ اپنائیں۔ میں یہ نہیں کہتا سنسری بورڈ  
گٹھت کیجئے لیکن صحیح ڈھنگ سے چیزوں کو  
دکھایا جا رہا ہے یا نہیں۔ کن چیزوں کو دکھایا  
جانا چاہیئے۔ اس کو دیکھنے کے لئے ایک سنسری  
بری کرنا آپ کو ضرور اپنی چاہیئے۔ اگر نہیں  
اپنائیں گے تو نشچت طور پر اس کی اکشمتا کو اس  
کے کار یہ کموں کو آپ کو شک نہیں بنا سکیں گے  
اور جو اس طرح کی چیزیں ابھی دی جا رہی ہیں  
جس کی جو پر ہمارے متروں نے کی ہے یہ ہماری  
نئی پیڑھی کے لوگوں پر برا اثر ڈالیں گی۔ دور  
درشن اور آکاش وانی کا جو دائیتو ہے اپنے دیش  
کی شکشا کے اکشیر میں بھاجک وکاس کے  
اکشیر میں برانسکو کک وکاس کے اکشیر میں اس  
دایتو کو دور درشن اور آکاش وانی پورا نہیں  
کر سکے گا۔

ابھی سمجھاؤں کے ساتھ میں اپنی بات  
سمایت کرتا ہوں۔

”ختم شد“

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : Thank you for the maiden speech. Now, Mr. Upendra.

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, speaking on the performance of the I & B Ministry is a tightrope walk for me because having headed the Ministry, even for a short time, I have a special consideration for the Ministry just as a man harbours love for his ex-wife even if she is remarried. There is a second reason also. That is, I do understand the difficult conditions under which the present Minister is working. He is valiantly fighting a battle, sometimes through martial law—and I hope it will not be a losing battle—against the challenges which media are getting from inside and outside.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, we should be first heartened by the vast expansion of the media network in the country, particularly the electronic media. We have come far away from six radio stations at the time of Independence to about 160 now. And, today, our Doordarshan, with its 550 transmitters, covers 82 per cent of the population while the radio covers 97 per cent. It is a very happy situation and we should be satisfied with that.

But what worries me is the element of confusion which is observed in the thinking of the Ministry for the last three years, particularly, in regard to the ways of tackling the so-called invasion from the satellite programmes from abroad. We have seen several announcements. First they talked about private channels. And a Committee was appointed in October 1991. Then they said that they would form a joint-stock company with the collaboration of several firms which will deal with Doordarshan. Then they talked about a second national channel at a cost of Rs. 2,700 crores, little imagining how that money would come and from where. Then there was the question of sharing the time-slots on the metro channels. There was a lot of scandals and all that. I do not blame the present Minister who came much later. Then came the appointment of the ATC and its resignation. Now we have come to the state of new channels. I think four more have been started and we have six now and the Minister

has promised 21 more shortly. One thing which is very clear in all this is that the Ministry has not been able to make up its mind as to how to deal with the situation. Also, little thought was given to the preparation of the software before announcing the new channels. As a result, most of them remain on paper. Nobody is able to see them.

The second thing which I would like to point to in this connection, before I come to the other units of the Ministry—the information and Broadcasting Ministry does not mean only radio and television—is that there is a panicky reaction, which Mr. Gujral also pointed out, to the so called satellite invasion. We have been seeing this phenomenon from 1987 and several discussions were held in the Ministry as to how to tackle that. But I don't call it an invasion. It is a technological and communication revolution, taking place all over the country, and there is no point in trying to stop it or control it. You can't do it. During the next two, three years, I believe, some fifty satellites will however orbit over this country, having an impact on this region. The neighbouring foreign countries like Nepal are offering uplink facilities to many firms. So, it is completely foolish to think that we can control the satellite programmes coming from abroad. It is a new information technology which you have to tackle and one thing is that, in the name of tackling the situation, in a panicky reaction, we jump to film-based programmes and lately, we are aping the Western programmes. Sometimes, I am shocked when I see the programmes late in the night—a complete aping of the Western programmes—and that worries me more. Recently, we had a seminar and one of the experts said that only 5 per cent of the country's population is really serious about the satellite programmes coming from abroad and it is mostly the urban-based population. Doordarshan or Radio have a captive audience with 70 per cent of the population in the villages. They do not have even time or means to watch the foreign programmes. They work the whole day in the fields and factories and sleep early at night. They have no time to see 24-hour Sports Channel, the Music Channel, and so on. You have



got a captive audience. Even in urban audience, take away the slum-dwellers and those who do not have their own TV sets and all that, then what is the population left ? And a very miniscule of the population, the elitist and the urbanised population, who are already possessing VCRs, Videos and Video Tapes, is left. Maybe, a small percentage of the population has been engulfed lately. But I don't consider it such a big crisis that we should be panicky about it and reorient our entire policy to meet the so-called threat. That is the second thing which I want to mention. Even those people who keep on watching regularly the Star TV, the Sports Channel and all these programmes, when we asked them, most of them admitted that they have stopped seeing these programmes. According to them, most of these programmes are repetitive and most of them are boring. Maybe, in a particular situation like the Gulf War or something, where some kind of live programmes have come, there is some interest in these programmes, not daily, and just like a philandering husband, who would come back to his old faithful wife later, I am sure, the vast population will still stick to Doordarshan if the Ministry improve their programmes. That, should be our concern to improve our programmes. They should be true to our conditions and those programmes should suit our social conditions and the lives of the people. It is not mere copying. Here I want to emphasise one thing. I have been repeatedly telling that the only way we can keep the audience stuck to Doordarshan or the Radio, is to improve the regional programmes, which the Ministry has all along been neglecting. If there is a programme in one's mother-tongue and simultaneously, there is a programme in Hindi, English or any other language, they would prefer a programme in their own mother tongue. That has been neglected so far. I am happy now that the Ministry has realised it and some of the transponders which they are taking now, are exclusively going to be used for the regional programmes. But you should facilitate people seeing these programmes also. So far, it has not been done. That is why I want to emphasise these two things—improve-

ment in our programmes and more regional programmes. And also, we should utilise fully the production facilities we have already got. The Minister must be knowing, but I don't I may be wrong. Only 20 per cent of the capacity of the Central Production Centre in Delhi is being utilised. Such a beautiful set-up you have got. How much of it is being used for what purposes and why you are not able to utilise it, these also have to be analysed. And why are we going for more and more transmitters and relay centres ? Very little progress is being made on the creation of new centres and studios. There are proposals but they are very slow. And we have to speed up the local production facilities; only then can the regional programmes be produced. I can give only one example of tardy delays in executing these programmes, that is the studio at Vijayawada about which I spoke to the Minister many times, for which I laid the foundation-stone. In spite of the several requests, that work has not yet been started. There is no provision in this year's Budget. I earnestly request the hon. Minister that if he has no intention to start the work, I shall be obliged if he can return the foundation stone gracefully to me, because there is a tradition at the Krishna river where all the ashes of the dead and gone are ceremoniously immersed, and, therefore, I can hold a function and immerse this stone also there. It is unfortunate that even the committed things are not being done properly. I hope the Minister in his reply will deal with this point also. I am not parochial in saying this, but since I laid the foundation-stone, I am being repeatedly shown that stone, whenever I go there, covered with grass, that is why I am referring to that..

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal) : Your name also will be covered !

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Now, O. B. Vans. We should have more O. B. Vans to cover the regional events. I do not want to go into other details but I only touch upon the points in the limited time I have got, in spite of the Solicitor's Vice-Chairman sitting there.

Another thing is, administratively it is not judicious or proper to go in for fre-

quent changes, which is one of the points of criticism in the Press and the public, that too many changes are being made too suddenly, dislocating the work. Of course, the Minister has a right to do and indulge in this kind of exercise, but I feel shuffling the same people in and around may not be yielding much results.

Then, I come to the corruption point. The less said the better. All of us have failed and I don't think I can blame the Minister and I can't expect quick results. But, one thing is, in the name of the commissioned programmes 25 crores of rupees have been swallowed by very eminent people and that has not been realised so far. You must take action and see that either they should produce the programme or they should return the money. And make a beginning in this. And that is one thing which I want to mention.

Another point which I want to stress and which the other Members also mentioned, is autonomy for the media, electronic media. The Prasar Bharati Bill was passed more than three years ago, unanimously by all the parties, after having a nationwide debate, on the basis of consensus. I have to bear criticism from media experts like Mr. Gujral that it did not go to the extent they wanted it. We wanted to make a beginning in this, but that beginning has also not been made. The Government doesn't clearly say what they want to do. The amendments which the Minister wanted to bring in, the Parties had agreed to them. But what delays this, I do not know. He must have done his part by sending it to the Cabinet. It may be lying somewhere, but the Government should come forward and spell out clearly whether they are for autonomy or not.

The Minister is aware that even the Calcutta High Court has interfered in this matter and they have also expressed surprise that an Act of Parliament, passed three years ago, has not been implemented so far. Having said this, I have my own second thoughts on having got the Bill passed; Now, when you see the type of competition in which the media is indulging, the type of programmes they are putting in to meet the so-called competition,

I feel even an autonomous corporation will completely concentrate on entertainment but not on other things. The electronic media is not merely meant for entertainment. They have other duties to perform, to inform and educate the people. The media has got social obligations. Who will look after that? A private corporation or an autonomous corporation will not bother about your educational programmes, agricultural programmes or social programmes and all that. The Government cannot go on giving directives to the corporation to telecast or broadcast 'educational' programmes day in and day out. It is not possible. Therefore, I have come to this conclusion. My view is that the Government should have, at least, one channel, both on Radio and TV, for social purposes, for its own publicity programmes, for news, etc. They can share the hardware with the proposed Prasar Bharati Corporation. Keeping this main channel with you, you can hand over the rest of the channels, including the new channels, Metro Channel, etc. to the Prasar Bharati and ask them to either use them fully or lease out to the private parties or do as they like. You can have a financial arrangement with the corporation accordingly. That is one suggestion which I would like to make. In case the Government agrees to that, you can amend the Act. When you amend the Act, you amend it on this line.

One more point which I want to stress is that less importance is given to the Radio. The glamorous girl gets all the attention. But in the Indian conditions, even today if you go to rural areas, you will find every boy, every man, has got a small transistor. Radio has a relevance in the rural areas even today. But we are ignoring it. The Ministry is ignoring it. Nobody is bothered about the Radio. Nobody writes about what happens in Radio. Even a small change in the News Editors of the Doordarshan is highlighted in the front page news. But nobody is bothered about Radio. We started FM Stations. It is a very good scheme. But nobody can hear them. The Radio has not been changed to tune to the FM system. They have not produced it. Unless they are produced, there is no point in opening FM Sta-

tions here and there. That point also has to be looked into.

Before I conclude, I will briefly mention one or two sentence about the other wings of this Ministry.

I fully agree that the Press Council, which is an autonomous body under the overall control of the Ministry, must be given more teeth. What can they do now? So many things are written. So many things are written against individuals and organisations. They are defenceless. Even when complaints are made, the utmost thing they do is they censor the papers after two or three years, which nobody bothers about. You must give more teeth to the Press Council. It should be made more and more effective.

Another thing is about the Film Division. You have increased the time of the news to half-an-hour. Every visual is covered by the news. After 20 days or 25 days or one month, you produce a newsreel. Now, you call it a News Magazine. Who is interested in that? When you show it on TV, I think, by that time everybody might have seen those things on TV. The Films Division equipment is misused. You can ask anybody in Bombay. The entire equipment is being used for private purposes in Bombay. What is the purpose of this coverage? If it is for the purpose of archives or for posterity, even the Doordarshan coverages can be retained. I feel that the time has come now to review the functioning of the Films Division. The question is whether it should exist or not. If it has to exist, whether it should exist as a unit of the Doordarshan or a feeder service division of the Doordarshan. Existence of an independent films division may not be necessary.

Now, I come to the DAVP. Why should it handle advertisements of all the public sector undertakings and the Ministries? Each one of them can do it on its own. Why should it be concentrated in one hand? You bring out pamphlets of the speeches of the Prime Minister and other Ministers in various language<sup>^</sup>. There is a wastage of lakhs

and lakhs of rupees. If you go to the DAVP offices, you will find many bundles lying there. They are not distributed. Even if they are distributed, people don't read them. You have to completely analyse the role of DAVP.

Now, I come to the PIB. I can understand their role in Delhi. The Prime Minister's Office and other Ministries work through them. I can even understand this. In the metropolitan cities they may be doing a little work. Go to any other place, you will find that absolutely nothing is being done. The man does not even have a vehicle. He does not even have a ten rupee note so as to entertain a Press man. He has no news to circulate. By the time you send some news to him, it is too late. It reaches him after ten days. What for are these PIB offices existing? Previously, they were doing small jobs. Whenever an I&B Minister went there, they used to get his photograph published in the local press. Now-a-days, that also they are not able to do. Therefore, the time has come to reorient the PIB. Screen it to the extent possible. What I want to say is that most of the departments need to be slimmed down. Make it a compact Ministry, a small Ministry and an efficient Ministry. The Directorate of Field Publicity is doing good work in many places. But they have no vehicles, they have no jeeps. If they have vehicles, they do not work. If they work, they are used for other purposes like for marketing or to dropping children at school, etc. Therefore, the functioning of the Directorate of Field Publicity also requires to be reviewed. Then we have the Song and Drama Division. It is a pity to see aged ladies trying to dance or enact dramas. It is a pity that they have been made permanent staff members. Now they cannot perform. You will have to maintain them till they retire. Why can't we hire good troupes from various districts and pay them a good honorarium? The people who are already there can be made instructors for some time or may be until they retire. But there should be no more expansion and recruitment

in the Song and Drama Division. It is completely useless. The only department which is doing a good job is the Publications Division. It should be strengthened. Good publications are being brought out. I don't know about their timely distribution and sale. You must see to the economics of this Department also. I think the Publications Division needs to be strengthened. Now, coming to the Directorate of Film Festivals, every Minister who organised a Film Festival got a bad name. Anybody, who does not get an invitation card, writes badly about the Film Festival. Why should the Government organise Film Festivals? Why not the Film Federation of India organise Film Festivals? Why should we maintain a Directorate for that purpose? What for? What is the purpose? I can understand your giving awards to some people, like the Presidential awards. But organising Film Festivals, I don't understand. I think the time has come for the Government to stop this. You are talking of globalisation, liberalisation and all that. Then, why should the Government organise Film Festivals? Kindly review this also. Coming to Censors, I must admit that I am also a guilty of yielding to pressure, in regard to the type of people being recommended by the MPs and the MLAs and political leaders. It is full of anti-social elements. They take full advantage of their position. They are bribed by the producers. Therefore, let us screen them completely. Let us put honest people, people who command some respect locally, in these places. Whenever a film has to be screened, the producer's name is known in advance.

The rule says that until a panel Member goes there, he should not know about the film that is being screened. But it is known two days in advance that so and so will be on the panel and he will be screening such and such a film. This needs to be reoriented. Another point which is indirectly connected to this Ministry is regarding the large number of theatres that are being closed down all over the country. Because of the onslaught of Doordarshan, most of the theatres are being closed

down and the film industry is likely to suffer in the long run. Of course, in towns and small areas, they may survive. Therefore, you must encourage the coming up of small theatres in commercial complexes. Of course, the policy is there. But this needs more and more encouragement. Now coming to the Film and Television Institute at Pune, I must say I did not have the misfortune of visiting it. But I have heard of it. The sooner you close it down, the better. Why should you run this educational institution? Hand it over to some University. Give them some grants. Give a few crores of rupees to the Pune University or Bombay University. Let it be affiliated to some University. Let them run it. All types of scandalous things, let them not reflect on the I&B Ministry. Also as regards Film Archives, I believe most of the items are damaged; air-conditioners do not work and there is lack of space. Please visit the archives and see for yourself what the condition there is. We have to do something to improve the Archives.

Lastly, I want to mention two things more, namely, our national media and information policy. A draft was prepared. It is there in the Ministry. In the new circumstances, probably, it requires a radical revision. Please do that. But let us have a broad outline of the media policy. After all, we are not going to dictate to the nation how the media should function but a broad outline of the media policy is necessary. That should be done. And, finally, there is a suggestion that Information and Culture should have better co-ordination. Now, unfortunately, having become the Chairman of the Standing Committee on HFD under which culture comes, I cannot give any positive suggestion at this stage, though earlier I mooted a proposal. There should be closer co-ordination between the Ministries of I&B and Culture. I do not know if you can bring them under one head. Whatever is to be done is to be done by the Cabinet.

But these are some of the things that you have to attend to urgently. My good

wishes are with you. We have been friends for a long time. We discussed many things privately whenever we got the opportunity. I assure you all support that I can give and I wish you and the Ministry all the best.

Thank you, Sir.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on an important subject, namely, Information and Broadcasting. Sir, the I&B is not meant merely for supplying information to the public, but it has to play a role, in the vast arena, in the promotion of the unity and integrity of the country. It has to play a vital role. As far as the cultural arena is concerned, your goodself has completely exposed what is going on in the I&B. I need not add anything more to it. In spite of that, I feel that I should mention one or two things. Firstly, scientific temper is more important than scientific knowledge. On this point of scientific temper, our Television has totally failed. Sir, as regards scientific temper, I would say that there is an impression created that when we watch T. V., we cannot find anything that can upgrade the minds of the youngsters. So, I feel that we have to revamp the entire system, the system in which T. V. and radio are functioning. We have to revamp it in such a way that we can, at least, prevent further degradation of culture. If anybody sees the T. V. serials now-a-days, he will not believe that such serials are being telecast from the Indian T. V. stations. This is how it is going on. Some five years back, what we used to say is that we could not watch the T. V. serials with our family members. But, now-a-days, we will not even be able to sit with our spouses and watch these serials. That is the situation. I think the hon. Minister will bring about some improvements.

Regarding educational programmes, I am glad that such programmes are being broadcast by All India Radio. In every State, radio stations have a kind of teaching programme where they touch upon every subject. I feel that in the national

6.00 P.M.

perspective, we can have such teaching programmes on T. V. as well. We can allocate the time saying that at such and such time, such and such subjects will be touched upon. I think this will be beneficial to the Open University students as well as students doing correspondence courses. Then, as regards radio, a little bit of improvement has taken place in one arena and that is that we have programmes covering all the regional languages. At the same time, do you know what is going on in the State of Tamil Nadu ? Tamil Nadu is fighting against the imposition of Hindi for the last 50 years. We are fighting against it since 1936. In spite of this, in All India Radio classes teaching Hindi have been introduced. Hindi songs are also being broadcast. We oppose totally the imposition of Hindi.

SHRI HIPHEI (Mizoram) : We are not Hindi-speaking people. We are tolerating. In the same way, you should also develop tolerance.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI : This cannot be done. You cannot understand what the feeling of a South Indian is. Hindi also is one of the regional languages. What we say is that Hindi is also one of the regional languages. Central Government is not a super power. It is to cater to the needs of all the people. What I feel is that if the Government wants to spend money for the development of language, it should spend for the development of all the Indian languages and not one particular language because India is in the world and the world is not in India. We must know the *pros* and *cons*. If English language is to be applied, we the *pros* and *cons* are equal for the North Indians and the South Indians. If Hindi is the official language, the profit actually goes to the North India. That is why we are fighting against it. We want to safeguard the interests of our future generations. I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to spell out the stand of the DMK party.

Sir, the regional news bulletin is totally a documentary film, we can hear only what a Minister has said or what the

Government has said. In the news bulletins, the views of both the Opposition parties and the Government should be broadcast. Therefore, the regional news bulletin<sup>^</sup> have to be reformed.

Then, I come to the problem of telecast of programmes during prime time. In order to show Hindi programmes, the time allotted for regional programmes is reduced, the time for regional language programmes is taken away for the telecast of Hindi programmes. During prime time, they introduced Hindi programmes. They reduced the time for the telecast of regional language programmes.

Regarding cable TV, in Tamil Nadu, the Government has imposed a 40% tax on the cable TV operators. Do you think that they will be able to survive after paying 40% tax? Nobody can survive. Cable TV is a new business. Therefore, the Central Government, in consultation with all the State Governments, should formulate an all-India policy so far as cable TV is concerned. I think that the people cannot tolerate more than a 10% tax. Previously, some 3-4 years ago, the cable TV operators were investing Rs. 1 lakh or so. Now, they are investing Rs. 25,000—30,000/- only. In the rural areas, these operators can collect only Rs. 30/- to Rs. 50/-. In the urban areas, they can collect Rs. 75/- to Rs. 100/-. It is more or less a self-employment scheme. In our particular area, there are about 30,000 people employed in this industry. I think there will be a lakh or more people in this business throughout India. What I request the Government of India is to see that these people are not punished. The people who are operating the cable TV should not be punished by the State Governments.

Now, I would like to say something about the temporary employees who are working for several years in various TV stations. So, something should be done to see that these temporary employees we made permanent. I request the hon. Minister to regularise the services of all

those temporary employees who rendered a continuous service of three years. I think some temporary employees working in the Madras Station have submitted a memorandum to the I&B Ministry. They are fighting for their legal rights. Justice should be done to them.

Finally, I want to say something about the news pool. Previously, there were both English and Hindi. Now, there is only a Hindi pool. For everything, the Madras Station has to send the messages, i.e., news items, in Hindi only and it will receive the news items only in Hindi. This should be stopped.

With these words, Mr. Vice-Chairman, I thank you very much.

**श्री गोविन्दराम श्रीरी (मध्य प्रदेश) :** उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे जैसे देश में विकास कार्यक्रमों और नीतियों के बारे में जनता में जागरूकता पैदा करने में जनसंचार के विभिन्न माध्यमों की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका होती है। इससे जनता को यह प्रेरणा मिलती है कि वह राष्ट्र निर्माण कार्यों में सक्रिय रूप से भाग ले। आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन स्वस्थ मनोरंजन प्रदान करने के साथ जनता को शिक्षित भी करता है और उसे जानकारी भी प्रदान करता है। अब हम देखेंगे कि हमारे यहां जो संचार के माध्यम हैं उनकी क्या भूमिका है। आपने कल इस बारे में प्वाइंट बाउट किया था। मैं सबसे पहले हमारे यहां जो मीडिया है जो संचार के माध्यम हैं उनकी विश्वसनीयता के संबंध में मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा। मैं विश्वसनीयता के संबंध में एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूं कि हमारे देश के तत्कालीन प्रधान मंत्री श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी की मृत्यु जब 31-10-84 को हुई उस समय उनके सुपुत्र राजीव गांधी बाहर प्रवास में थे, जब उनकी सूचना दी गयी उनकी मृत्यु की तो उन्होंने कहा कि बी.बी.सी. लगाओ। हमारा मस्तक सब उड़ता होता जब वे काश कहते कि आल इंडिया रेडियो लगाओ। ऐसा न कहकर उन्होंने बी.बी.सी. कहा। यानी बी.बी.सी. ज्यादा अथॉरिटीक हो गया है हमारे लिए बचाये आल इंडिया रेडियो को। इसी तरह से दूसरी बात मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि मीडिया का जो कार्य है वह शासन की नीतियों

को प्रोजेक्ट करना है न कि व्यक्तियों को प्रोजेक्ट करना है। कुछ समय तो ऐसा हो गया था कि यह दूरदर्शन न होकर मंत्री दर्शन हो गया था। मैं पूरे आदर के साथ कहना चाहता हूँ कि एक ऐसा भी समय आया था राजीव गांधी जी के प्रधान मंत्री के समय पर कि यह दूरदर्शन न होकर राजीव दर्शन हो गया था।

तीसरी बात मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि मीडिया का सत्ता पक्ष द्वारा जो दुरुपयोग किया जाता है यह बंद होना चाहिए। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आपातकालीन शासकों ने जनसंचना माध्यमों का भारी दुरुपयोग किया और सच्चाई को आम जनता से छुपाया। मझे खेद के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि जब तत्कालीन प्रधान मंत्री श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी की मृत्यु हुई तो हमारी सभ्यता के खिलाफ उनके शब्द की शक्ति को और समाप्त बातों को उस समय दूरदर्शन ने बार-बार दिखाया। वोट के लिए लोगों की भावनाओं को उभारा। इसी तरह से तत्कालीन प्रधान मंत्री श्री राजीव गांधी की जब हत्या हुई, उस समय भी मीडिया का दुरुपयोग किया गया और पूनः वोट के लिए हिंदुस्तान की जनता की भावनाओं को उबेरना उभारा गया। बार-बार उन्हीं कार्यक्रमों को दिखा-दिखा कर यह सब किया गया। यह इस प्रकार का जो व्यवहार है इसमें बदलाव आना चाहिए और दूरदर्शन तथा आकाशवाणी को निष्पक्षता का परिचय देना चाहिए... (समय की घंटी)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज) : समाप्त करिये अब।

श्री गोविन्दराम मीरः दूसरी बात मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हिंदुस्तान की संस्कृति और सभ्यता पर बार-बार चोट की जा रही है। फिल्म और अन्य जो प्रोग्राम दिखाये जाते हैं वे इनने छिटिया किस्म के होते हैं कि हम परिवार के साथ बैठकर नहीं देख सकते हैं। आज ही मैं अहमदाबाद में पढ़ रहा था एक फिल्म बना रही है "किराये की माँ"। माँ का दर्जा हिन्दुस्तान में कितना ऊँचा है और हम "किराये की माँ" फिल्म बना रहे हैं। हम उन्हें देख रहे हैं। आजकल के जो गाने की सीन एवं बोल हैं उनके बारे में एक ने सरका-

स्टिक दे मैं कहा था, मैं थोड़ा उद्विग्न करना चाहता हूँ—

“हमारी सभ्यता कहाँ जा रही है,

जाड़े में खटिया सरका रही है,

गमी में अटिंगिया पे लीटन कबूतर बढ़ा रही है,

पर सभ्यता की यह नग्नता हमें गंजर नहीं आ रही है,

क्योंकि हम भटक गये हैं,

चोली के पीछे क्या है, इसी प्रश्न में अटक गये हैं।”

यह आजकल जो हो रहा है उसको देख करके मुझे महाभारत काल की बात याद आती है जब भरत दरबार में द्रोपदी का चीरहरण किया गया तो वहाँ पर द्रोणाचार्य जैसे गुरु और युधिष्ठिर, भीम, अर्जुन, नकुल व सहदेव अनेक और जो थे वे चुपचाप देखते रहे, उसी तरह से हमारी सरकार आज हमारी संस्कृति और सभ्यता पर जो हमला हो रहा है उसको चुपचाप देख रही है और उसको बचा नहीं पा रही है। मेरा आपसे निवेदन है कि इस पर रोक लगनी चाहिए।

एक और बात मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो हिन्दुस्तानी खेल-कूद है उसकी उपेक्षा की जा रही है और विदेशी खेल को बहुत अधिक दिखाया जा रहा है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि प्रौढ़ शिक्षा के बारे में कार्यक्रम अगर दिखाया जाता है तो ठीक है। एक भयंकर हमारी भेदभाव और छाछाछात की है और इसके उन्मूलन के बारे में कार्यक्रम नहीं दिखाया जाता है। इसके साथ ही मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो हमारे यहाँ महापुरूष पैदा होते हैं उनके बारे में भी शिक्षा देने के लिए उनकी जीवनी पर अधिक कार्यक्रम दिखाए जाने चाहिए। अधिकांश कार्यक्रम अंग्रेजी में होते हैं और हिन्दी की उपेक्षा होती है। छत्तीसगढ़ के जो विख्यात कलाकार हैं उनको अक्सर नहीं मिलता है। छत्तीसगढ़ में मीडिया का जो प्रसार है वह कमजोर टॉसबीटर लगाए गए हैं। बिलासपुर में जो रेडियो सेंटर है और टी.वी. रिले सेंटर है उसकी रेंज बढ़ाया जाए।

अंत में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि प्रसार भारती जो बिल है जिसको कि जनता सरकार ने इंट्रोड्यूस किया था, सरकारी नियन्त्रण से मुक्त करने का जो निर्णय भूतपूर्व जनता पार्टी ने लिया था और उसके बाद फिर हमारे मित्र उपेन्द्र साहू जब यहाँ पर सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री थे उस समय वह बिल पेश किया था। उसमें 400 से अधिक संशोधन प्रस्ताव रखे गए थे और 65 सरकार ने स्वीकार किए थे। सरकार ने बार-बार आश्वासन दिया है कि हम उसको 1992 में लागू कर देंगे, लेकिन अभी तक वह बिल पास नहीं हो रहा है। आपको ध्यान दिलाता हूँ कि वह बिल कहाँ पड़ा हुआ है उसको निकाला जाए। मैं मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूँगा कि जब तक आप मीडिया को सरकार नियन्त्रण से मुक्त नहीं करेंगे तब तक आप भारतवर्ष की सच्ची सेवा नहीं कर पाएँगे।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीवती सुषमा स्वराज) :**  
अब माननीय मंत्री जी चर्चा का उत्तर देंगे।  
मंत्री जी। . . . (व्यवधान)

**श्री अनन्तराय देवेशकर दबे (गुजरात) :**  
महोदया, मैं एक ही बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि दूरदर्शन पर हर बार घंटों तक टेनिस के मैच दिखाए जाते हैं, लेकिन हमारे जो इस देश के मैच खेले जाते हैं, जैसे शारजाह में इतना बड़ा मैच हुआ और करोड़ों लोग उसे भारत में दूसरे चैनलों से देख रहे थे, लेकिन दूरदर्शन ने नहीं दिखाया ?

**उपसभाध्यक्ष :** ठीक है, मंत्री जी जवाब देंगे। . . . (व्यवधान) बीटए, मंत्री जी जवाब देंगे। . . . (व्यवधान)

**श्री अनन्तराय देवेशकर दबे :** महोदया . . . (व्यवधान) उनको बड़ा शौक है टेनिस का, इसलिए वह टेनिस के घंटों तक दिखाते हैं।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष :** अब मंत्री जी इसका जवाब देंगे। आप बीटए। मंत्री जी।

**SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :** Madam Vice-Chairman, I am extremely grateful to the hon. House and specially to you for having initiated the discussion on the Annual Report of the Ministry of Information And Broadcasting. In fact, the

level of debate has been of a very high order and I would like to convey the grateful thanks of all the officers of my Ministry and myself that all the Members, without any exception, have given very valuable and constructive criticism and I accept it in letter and spirit. It shall be our endeavour to give deference to the sentiments expressed in this House and to see how we can act on them wherever it is practicable and to whatever extent it is practicable. We would like to take advantage of the experience and the sentiments of the hon. Members who have had wide-ranging experience not only in the field of media, but some of them have been my distinguished predecessors in this Ministry.

Madam, in fact, most of the speeches were very, very eloquent, articulate and have given us a lot of food for thought. But I regret to say that I would not be in a position to agree with all of them because the citations and the illustrations go back a little into history. In fact, it was not—totally speaking—on the Annual Report for 1993-94. I shall come to it as I answer the points made by hon. Members.

The main points which were referred to were : the budgetary allocation; the entry of the foreign media; the Prasar Bharati; the question of the society, nation and morality; the working of the Central Board of Film Certification; the role of the Ministry and its social responsibilities, particularly, in today's context; the question of social audit and social relevance; human resource development; the credibility of Doordarshan; sports; training, professionalism and regionalism; technical excellence; satellite channels; the future of Doordarshan; the role of Doordarshan and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in education; the question of improving the awareness of the people; the imposition of Hindi; lastly, about Sharjah. There was also reference to Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

Madam, I have heard since yesterday about Indian Culture, about the greatness of Indian culture. But I cannot understand as to what sort of culture it is that



we speak of two dead persons and we try to quote something of what they had said, when nobody knows whether they had made these utterances or not. I do not think the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi had said that he preferred B.B.C. to Doordarshan. I do not think anybody is aware of it. I do not think this sort of thing reflects well on our culture at all. Although we wax eloquent, we talk glibly about Indian culture, we are doing just the opposite.

I would start answering by saying that the entire debate since yesterday has been an episode of contradictions, of paradoxes. In fact, it gives the very essence of the working of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Madam, when you initiated the discussion, you started with a particular point of view. Mr. Narayanasamy had just the opposite point of view. The next speaker, Shrimati Sarala Maheshwari, had a totally different point of view, had a totally different perception. Dr. Bishambhar Nath Pande had a different point of view. Then, my distinguished predecessor, Shri Inder Kumar Gujral, spoke. I must say that I have been a great admirer of him ever since I entered Parliament. I remember when he was the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Communications, I made my maiden speech. My knees were buckling. He came and sat next to me. I also recall Dr. Lohia putting his hand over my shoulders and saying :

“बच्चे धबराओ मत, सोचलो तुम्हारे सामने सब गधे बैठे हैं।”

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, आज भी आपका वही स्थान है ?

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : This gave me strength. This boosted my morale so much that my knees stopped buckling and I could complete my maiden speech.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती सुखमा स्वराज) : “गधा” शब्द एक बार असंसदीय कहकर के निकला गया है प्रोसिडिंग में से। आज निकालू या रूखू ?

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से भी बोलिए तो किस पर आता है। . . . (स्वबधान)

एक माननीय सदस्य : उन्होंने किसी और को नहीं कहा है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती सुखमा स्वराज) : इसी सत्र में एक बार यह शब्द असंसदीय कहकर निकाला गया है, गधा।

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी : यह देख लीजिए आप, अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से आपद . . . (स्वबधान) उसे लिहाज से भी देख लीजिए।

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Madam Vice-Chairman, I would like to start off with what you began with : you began by quoting from the first page of the I & B Ministry's report of 1993-94, about the I & B Ministry's role. May I also quote from the I & B Ministry's report of 1977-78, in Hindi, when Shri Advani was the I & B Minister ?

— सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय अपने माध्यम एककों के जरिए समूचे देश के लोगों को सरकार की नीतियों, योजनाओं और कार्यक्रमों की जानकारी कराता है। यह माध्यम एकक हैं—आकाशवाणी, दूरदर्शन, एन सूचना कार्यालय वगैरह-वगैरह।

So, Madam, this has been the role of the I&B Ministry right from 1950. It is not something which has been taken up only now. It is there right from the days of Sardar Patel, when he was the Information Minister. It is not as if Doordarshan and the entire I ft B Ministry has taken on a new role now.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : महोदया, यहाँ तक सवाल है सिद्धांत का, बिल्कुल सही कहा है। प्रश्न तो इम्पलीमेंटेशन का है। जो सरदार पटेल के समय में होता था, अडवाणी के समय में हुआ, उसी आपका इंपलीमेंटेशन उल्टा है। सवाल सिद्धांत का नहीं है। सिद्धांत तो बिल्कुल ठीक है।

श्री के. पी. सिंह बबे : धन्यवाद।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Mathurji, the Minister has just started. Why are you putting that question now ? You hear him fully and then put the question.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Madam, you have also asked whether any survey has been done on the news formats of Doordarshan. The surveys so far conducted by Audience Research Units of Doordarshan primarily relate to the viewership of the various programmes telecast by Doordarshan. It is not anything secret. These are published periodically. That means, periodically the Audience Research Institute of AIR and Doordarshan carries out these researches on viewers, and they are published and even given to the press. In fact, according to the surveys, Doordarshan continues to retain its position as the channels most watched by viewers in this country both in the rural and urban areas, and the comparative reach, as on December 1993, of Doordarshan was 40.3 million households as compared to 0.2 million of Star TV.

Madam, you have made a large number of points, all of which I will not be able to answer now. I will give written replies to them. One other question was about the entry of foreign newspapers into this country. So far we have been guided by the 1955 decision of the Cabinet chaired by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, which had said that no foreign-owned newspaper or periodical should in future be published in India. The Cabinet also accepted, in principle, that foreign newspapers and periodicals, which dealt mainly with news and current affairs, should not be allowed to bring out Indian editions. The decision was taken on the recommendation of the first Press Commission which, on general principles, considered Indianization both of capital and staff, specially at the higher level, desirable. The First Press Commission expressed its views on the issue about ownership of newspapers and periodicals by nationals of other countries and even by foreign governments and considered highly desirable that proprietorial interest in the daily and weekly newspapers vested predominantly in Indian hands.

In pursuance of the above decision, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has since then consistently denied permission for publication of Indian editions

of foreign newspapers and periodicals dealing mainly with, news and current affairs. Though local editions of technical and specialised periodicals were not objected to in the said Cabinet note, such editions have also not been allowed to be published so far. Publication of Indian editions of foreign newspapers and periodicals even with equity tie-up with an Indian partly have also not been allowed.

In view of the satellite television broadcasts and foreign news channels being accessible and the policy of liberalisation, it was felt that it was appropriate time to liberalise the flow of information into the country, keeping certain safeguards in view. The Ministry proposed to carry out a review of the 1955 policy with certain conditions being imposed. However, the Ministry's proposal in the shape of a Cabinet note has been deferred by the Cabinet. It is under consideration because of various implications, and only the Cabinet can take, a decision, not the Ministry alone. As you are aware, Madam, there have been court cases all over the country and in the Supreme Court also. So, at the moment, there is no question of allowing anyone until and unless the Government studies all the implications and {Salifications. The Cabinet decision of 1955 and 1956 has been our yardstick so far for examining requests from foreign news agencies to operate in India. As you yourself said, Madam, it is a dynamic society. We cannot remain static. So, when offers come, when proposals come, we do have to analyse them and either reject them or Consider them. Therefore, it is still at the consideration stage. This is what I wanted to inform the hon. House.

Much has been said about the credibility, the professionalism and the functioning of the Doordarshan. In your third point, Madam, you wanted the Doordarshan to be as efficient as the BBC is. In fact, one or two other Members, including the Member from Bihar, mentioned about the BBC having covered the Babri Masjid incident but the Doordarshan having not done it. That was also on the 6th of December, 1992.

The latest, Madam, is the Latur earth quake. The Latur-USmanabad earthquake was picked up first by the AIR, and thereafter it was picked up by the Doordarshan and the BBC, the Radio France, the PTI etc. The home agency, PTI has far more resources, far more news people on the ground in these areas. Still, the first was one of the aims of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, the All India Radio.

Today also there is an enquiry going on how the Doordarshan tapes reached the BBC and other foreign satellite channels. It was far ahead of any other agency which had gone to Latur, and the tapes had reached Delhi. Hon. Members of this House and the other House have asked whether it was a sabotage or it was an ordinary theft or whether there was a collusion. The enquiry is on. Even if it is necessary to hand it over to the CBI, we shall do so because this is a case where the Doordarshan's functioning in the news room could be jeopardised, could be affected if such a thing happens. But the fact is that the Doordarshan tapes even with the Doordarshan logo had been shown by other TVs. So, it is a subject matter of inquiry. The second was on the Hazratbal incident. In spite of the fact that there were so many foreign TV crews and everyone present in Srinagar, it was only Doordarshan which took the initiative and was the first to reach the spot. I am giving only two illustrations. Otherwise one can go into it a lot. Therefore, there seems to be a lot of inspired criticism because people are not aware of the fact where Doordarshan has been doing well. Unfortunately that bouquet or the pat on the back does not come. It happens to be our hapless lot to get only gets brickbats and criticism.

Madam, you also mentioned about social programmes telecast by Doordarshan on different themes on behalf of different departments. Doordarshan is regularly telecasting programmes of various interests such as agriculture. Now, we have increased the duration, the quantum and improves the quality of the discussion on health, family planning and adult education. While on health and

family planning, Madam your point was very nicely met by Shrimati Veena Verma and others that socially relevant topics must be shown during prime time. So, I will not dwell on that. Most of these programmes are being produced by Doordarshan at its own cost. Sometimes the Ministries do not pay. In fact, if you see the Annual Report you will find that the outstanding amount is pertaining to many of the sister Ministries in the Government. They have still to make payments to Doordarshan. So, Doordarshan is trying to recover costs and as one of the hon. Members said, we must recover some of the costs. I think Mr. Upendra also mentioned about the commissioned programme of Rs. 25 crores. We shall certainly try to get it back as soon as possible.

Two or three instances came to our notice where money has been paid, but programmes have not been done. Such cases have been handed over to the CBI. The CBI started its work both at Bangalore and in Madras. Wherever it comes to our notice, prompt action is being taken.

In addition, Doordarshan is also telecasting free of cost films provided by the Departments of the Government of India. In fact, when we started the Metro Sports Hour, till 15th of August all sports programmes from anywhere in the country were shown free. Not a single paisa was taken. That was Doordarshan's way of promoting and encouraging sports.

Doordarshan is also telecasting spots on important themes such as family planning, AIDS, adult literacy, drug abuses etc. Here too again the spots are free of cost, although Doordarshan is supposed to earn revenue from these. These being in prime time it is losing a lot. So, it is not crash commercialism or just revenue or profit-making; it is playing its social obligation to the society, to the country and to the tax-payer. Madam, you had also asked about survey on the impact of television on social, psychological and cultural aspects of the country. The Centre for Media Studies, New Delhi, which has been doing social audit for many of the Departments of

the Governing of India, has been commissioned by Doordarshan to undertake a study on the impact of television on the historical, cultural, social, political and intellectual aspects of the people in this country and the adverse effects of foreign satellite programmes coming via the Cable TV. The study which will cost about Rs. 10 lakhs is expected to be completed within 8 months. It has already been commissioned. They are already on the job.

The Indian Institute of Mass Communication is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. It has been conducting various social audits, various reviews and studies on various aspects like the impact of television on housewives, impact of television on social behaviour, then the globalisation of television media and environmental education, especially on child behaviour. They have also been directed to include similar studies in the curriculum where students are doing their diploma and post-graduate diploma courses. They are going into the rural areas to find out these things. Now we have a second branch other than Delhi, will be having two more changes one in Kottayam, Kerala and the other in Jabua, Madhya Pradesh, which will be catering to the tribal areas. The study is on. Both these organisations will be submitting, their reports the moment they conduct their studies.

Madam, you had also mentioned about control over entertainment programmes. Each and every programme is pre-viewed in accordance with the broadcast code and code for commercial advertisement on Doordarshan and AIR. Seeing the situation sequences not found in conformity with the code are deleted or the producer is requested to make necessary changes. Some three or four days back, we had a torrid Question Hour in the Lok Sabha. I gave instances of the last three years where the Ministry had intervened and got deleted certain very gory details of violence, certain misdemeanour against women from various scenes. So, when it comes to the notice of the Ministry, it takes prompt action; and I have

26—20RSS/95

given the details of footage of the very films where it had been removed.

In order to further tighten control and to ensure that the code is maintained both in letter and spirit, it has been recently decided to meet the representatives of the Indian Federation of the Film Industry and the Central Board of Film Certification. We are also going to meet all the women Members of Parliament before the 13th of May. On the 11th May, we are meeting these representatives. I have been directed by the Speaker, Lok Sabha to convey the sentiments of the Lower House and I shall also on my own volition, convey the sentiments of this House also and have a discussion with them and find out how best we can make the Cinematograph Act and the Central Board of Film Certification—which is the name for Censor Board and which is popularly known—more effective.

In this connection, there is a Bill pending in this House. This Bill was introduced by my predecessor in 1992. I do hope that the Business Advisory Committee will find sometime for this Bill so that myself as well as the Government can get the benefit of the wisdom of both the Houses. Then we can make it more effective and more stringent measures can be taken against anyone who violates this law.

Some of the useful suggestions came from a former Member of this House and present a Member of the other House, Capt. Jaswant Singh are similar to that of the Cable T. V. When I had brought the Bill first here, many Members said that some people were remaining out of the ambit of the Cable T.V, and all responsible for producing the film of enacting the drama which has been hurting our sensibilities and our sense of morality and Indian culture should be looked into. These are some of the points which we are going to discuss in the meeting slated for 11th May. So, we are responsive to the criticisms in this House and the other House,

".

Madam, I have a large number of points. I hope the House will bear with me.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Please continue. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Another point was against the display of sex and indecent portrayal of women. As a sequel to the representations received I from women M.Ps, against the display of I sex and indecent portrayal of women, more stringent review norms have been adopted. In all film-based programmes, a censor certificate in respect of the songs and sequences featuring in these programmes is insisted upon. Otherwise, they do not go on the AIR or the Doordarshan. Songs which are likely to offend the sentiments of the viewers and which are considered to be crude and vulgar in taste are being taken off in spite of their having a censor certificate with the "U" classification. This is an initiative taken by the Doordarshan totally on their own and I do hope that the House will join me in commending them. In fact, more women are being included in Preview Panels. There are two panels as you know;\* Madam,—you are also a member on the Consultative Committee as well as the Standing Committee—the Examining Committee and the Preview Panels to ensure that the portrayal of women is such that it does not offend the provisions of the Act and the sentiments of viewers. There has been a mention about having 50 per cent women on that. We shall have to examine it from all its ramifications. Another point was on the quality of the programmes, their ethos and parameters. Considering the vast diversity in the tastes of the viewers in India, the programming on all the six channels of Doordarshan is so designed as to provide a composite mix of programmes to various segments of the viewers, both at the national and at the regional levels across the country. Madam, we saw in this House that various speakers had various views. The views were so varied. And when we cater to the about 90 crores of Indians, you can imagine how much the task of the Doordarshan is multiplied. I will just give you the details of the channels.

Doordarshan I Channel : The full range of programmes includes news, current affairs, films, sports, education, public services, etc. With a targeted audience of all ages, rural and urban, this continues to be a fully terrestrial channel.

Doordarshan II Channel : The existing Metro Channel is predominantly entertainment-oriented, also incorporating sports and music programmes. The targeted audience is merely the urban population in the younger age-groups and economically in the middle -lass. It has limited terrestrial reach in the four Metros and in Lucknow. Now we are extending it to all the State Capitals and the two mega cities. Later on, in the third phase, we shall also extend it to cities and settlements with population which may not be metro cities, which may not be mega cities, which may not be State Capitals, but important all the same from the population point of view.

Doordarshan III is a purely satellite-based channel with limited terrestrial distribution in Delhi. The programming profile on this channel is intended to cater to a targeted audience which is more intellectual and more serious-minded. It comprises a wide range for serious entertainment, telefilms, plays, discussions, social-issue-based programmes and documentaries. In order to cater adequately to the needs of regional language programmes, the remaining three satellite channels are being exclusively used for regional language programmes. This came into effect from the 1st February. The first review of our programme was on the 15th November. Then it was on the 1st February. Now we will review the success or efficacy of what we have started at the end of May or the beginning of June. There is a constant periodic review of whether our schemes are mindless, without application of mind, or whether we have put in any inputs.

Doordarshan IV.

Doordarshan-4, Kannada, Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu, Doordarshan-5, Assamese, Bangla and Oriya, Doordarshan-6, Gujarati, Kashmiri, Marathi and Punjabi. Madam, you will be glad to know that by 1995, our scientists will be putting up INSAT 2-C, which would be totally used for telecommunication and information, that is, television and radio, and I am sure, the House is aware that from the 1st of April,—not the All Fools Day, but the first day of the new financial years and it also happens to be the formation day of my State—we started 20 FM channels on All India Radio so that any Indian, sitting in any part of India, can hear any programme of his choice from any State, which was not practical till now. But, again it requires a dish and a cable and this is one of the first steps towards national integration and my friend, Mr. Virumbi, who is in the Committee of my Ministry, will be happy to know that he can hear his favourite Tamil songs by sitting here in Delhi, which he was not able to do earlier. And this has been a totally indigenous effort. The AIR and Doordarshan research and development wing have done the digital compression technique, which has not yet been perfected in Europe. Only a few American companies have succeeded. Our engineers have done it and we are hopeful that they will get us these 20 channels of Doordarshan by 15th of August, 1995.

The next point was regarding the quality of programmes, the ethos and so on. As per the fixed point chart, last time, the fixed point chart was fixed on the 1st of January, 1993, which was reviewed and in which the advertisements, sponsoring, the entire gamut of programming, done according to the fixed point chart. As per the fixed point chart of the various channels, the programme mix comprises the following broad programmes against the overall mixed programmes. These are : news, current affairs, interviews, discussions, music, dance, serials, plays, magazines, women and children, youth, sports and film-based items. Incidentally, many Members have said that 70 per cent of our programmes are film-based. I

would like to say that it is 17 per cent and not 70 per cent and if you take all the six channels, that is, live satellite channels and the main channel, then it comes to just 20 per cent. But, in the main channel, it is only 17 per cent and the Metro channel also, it is 17 per cent and not 70 per cent.

Besides this, the exclusive educational TV programmes, that is, NCERT, UGC etc. are telecast in the national and regional service. The utility programmes like those in the field of agriculture, rural development and other allied subjects also feature prominently in the overall programme—mix and it is being increased after our interaction. The hon. Minister for Agriculture had also called all my officers and we had called officers from the ICAR and the Ministry of Agriculture and we have decided that there would be frequent interaction and more and more programme on agriculture so that more extension work can be -given and we will be able to carry the message of the agricultural upgradation and extension to the people who would like to use the AIR and Doordarshan for that purpose. Madam, you had made a reference as to why we follow the rule of first-come-served in the case of satellite channels. You had also mentioned that the High Court had made a very scathing observation, had passed structures on the mindlessness of the Minister and the Ministry in this respect. Apparently, the Minister has to sign the file. Otherwise, no new plans can go. I would like to bring to your notice the extract of the Court's ruling. This was conveyed on.. . (*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : I have quoted front the High Court judgment.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :

"The hon. Court was pleased to issue notice on special leave petition as well as application for stay. The hon. Court was further pleased to observe that the Government can go ahead with the framing of the w&eme and place the same before the Court before implementation."

That means, the decks have now been cleared by the Supreme Court, setting aside the High Court's observation.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : I had quoted the High Court's observation.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Therefore, the decks have now been cleared. The I & B Ministry has been told to frame the scheme. Before implementation, we have to show it to the Supreme Court, which we shall do the moment we get a little respite, Madam.

Madam, you have also mentioned about the anti-India propaganda by Pakistan. I am happy to note that you do like Pakistani plays and I find those who do believe in Marxism want to see Ramayana and Mahabharata. It is a good news. It is a healthy trend. I must say that evolution of our society, dynamism in our society and metamorphosis of our society are taking place. Madam, the fact is, as far as Doordarshan and AIR are concerned, these are not propaganda machines. We bring to the people facts, truth, and nothing but the truth. And there is a Cell, in which there are many Ministries represented, under the Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs which monitors weekly this anti-India broadcast by Pakistan. And apart from monitoring, they give adequate responses to that. They are given to the AUR and Doordarshan. Because of various implications of our foreign relations, national security and other points, which are to be taken into consideration, the AUR and Doordarshan are only platforms which utilise whatever is given to them. We do not produce propaganda films against any country because that is against the code of AIR and Doordarshan. . . . (interruptions) . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : But we have to counter the false propaganda unleashed by Pakistan.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will, that is the subtle difference between Doordarshan and Pakistan T. V. And between January 6 and April 26, as many as 21 "Spotlight 'Cu!prerit Affairs" programme®, including Urdu Tapisara—I have got a list of 15

items. If you really want. Madam, I can read it—in which things have been done for the people of the border areas as a response to what Pakistan has been saying, and we have been putting forward the truth.

As regards the border areas' coverage, many Members, including yourself, mentioned that as a result of the decision taken by the Government last year, some time in May, in the Ministry a Task Force has been formed which regularly monitored and expected to rapidly implement the transmission facilities in Jammu and Kashmir, especially in the border transmitters, which is regularly monitored by both the Secretary and myself at periodic intervals and we are putting up a number of transmitters apart from Kashmir, at Punch, Kurd, Batot, Naushera, Thana Mandi, Katua, Katra, Dawar, Baramulla, Turi, Titwal, Bhodal, Kala Kothi and Samba, and apart from that, at Bhuj, Jaisalmer, Banner, Anupgarh and Bikaner. Some of the transmitters are also coming up near the Bangladesh side and Nepal side. Madam, we are conscious and we are working on it. Madam, the problem with the transmitter is, a large transmitter takes two to three years to be completed. There are only two companies in India which manufacture transmitters. Both of them are public sector undertakings. One company is of the State and one company is of the Centre. So, this cannot be done overnight.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Mr. Minister, will you yield for a minute ?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Minister, he wants you to yield for a minute.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : I want to know one thing. Madam, the Minister is saying that we are giving the facts. Pakistan is constantly carrying on its anti India campaign. Madam, this issue was raised by you and by many other hon. Members. The Minister is saying that we are giving facts and we are not in a position to say anything against Pakistan. I would like to say that the constant anti-India propaganda by Pakistan has to be

countered by giving proof to the people by our media.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Narayanasamy this is precisely what I said. Mr. Minister, you have to counter the false propaganda unleashed by Pakistan.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : The Minister says that (this is the distinction between the Pakistan media and the Indian media. That is not the answer. The answer is we have to effectively counter the anti-India propaganda unleashed by Pakistan by our machinery which is available with us.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माधुर : मैं एक बात पूछना चाहूंगा। मैं यह मानता हूँ कि पाकिस्तान के प्रोपेगंडा का जबाब देने के लिए सायद आइ. एंड बी. मिनिस्ट्री ज़कौली नहीं है। इसमें निदेश मंत्रालय और रक्षा मंत्रालय भी शामिल होगा कि क्या कहना है। क्या आपके यहां ऐसी कोई व्यवस्था है जिसमें इन दो मंत्रालयों से भी आपका बिल-प्रति-बिल, 15-20-25 दिन नहीं, दिन-प्रति-दिन संबंध रहता है कि आप काउंटर करें। आप जकौले सायद निर्णय नहीं कर सकेंगे कि क्या कहना है। (व्यवधान)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Whatever they are doing is not sufficient. That is the point.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Madam, we are in close touch with the various Ministries. As I said earlier, in the last three months we have produced 21 spot programmes as a response to the anti-India propaganda. All these programmes are based on facts. These are the details. If you want, I can lay a copy of it on the Table of the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : You can lay it on the Table of the House.

श्री अमरतरस देवेशकर ववे : हमारी तीसरी सभा कब खत्म होगी ? (व्यवधान)

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Madam, if I get interrupted like this, it will take more time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Nobody will interrupt you. So far there was no interruption रत्नावट को लिए खेद है।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Madam, it was a very relevant point.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Narayanasamy, you raised a very valid point.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Madam, I put this question because I was not satisfied with the reply of the Minister.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Minister, so far you have been replying to the points which were raised by me. Unfortunately I am in the Chair. So, I cannot speak.

श्री सहदेवर सिंह : इसमें कोई दो राय नहीं है कि वरचर्चन ने बहुत तरबकी की है और बहुत महत्वपूर्ण कार्यक्रम दिखसाए बा रहे हैं। लेकिन आप इस बात से भी सहमत होंगे और मंत्री महोदय भी इस बात से सहमत होंगे कि जो पहाड़ों में बसी हुई आबादी है, चाहे हिमाचल प्रदेश के पहाड़ हों, चाहे उत्तर प्रदेश के पहाड़ हों, चाहे नार्थ ईस्ट के पहाड़ हों, वहां की भौगोलिक स्थिति ऐसी है कि अभी भी बहुत सी जनता इन कार्यक्रमों से लाभान्वित नहीं हो पाती है। मैं आपके माध्यम से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसके लिए सरकार की क्या कोई योजना है ? (व्यवधान)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Please, don't interrupt the Minister. Mr. Minister, you can continue.

वह खुद बताएंगे, यह चीजें जा गई हैं महेश्वर जी। (व्यवधान) रत्नावट के लिए खेद है।

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : In view of the intrinsic quality of programmes in different languages of different States and different areas, it is not possible to make a universal value judgement about all



7.00 P.M.

our programmes. I may humbly submit that as such it will not be fair to decry all Indian programming as bad or indifferent in comparison to the Pakistani plays—many of our Members get time occasionally to see them. We never get a chance to see them—or place the latter on a higher pedestal quality-wise. It is a well-known fact that Indian films "and radio as well as television programmes countries. You will be happy to note Pakistan, Middle-East and the Gulf countries. You will be happy to note that recently in Paris, the Doordarshan was selected for the Jules Verne Prize, 1994 for its science serial—Turning Point. This happened only on the 18th of April. So, the Doordarshan programmes are winning prizes outside. Their quality is being appreciated even outside the country. Even the NFDC's 'Rudali' was one of the pictures which were considered for the Oscar in the earlier rounds, both for music and for best actress. So, it is not as if the Doordarshan, the NFDC and the I&B Ministry are not pulling their weight around. Therefore, I would humbly submit that all comparisons are odious and it would not be fair to the Doordarshan producers if we *were* to denigrate their efforts for which they have been getting accolades. After making periodic reviews, we recast the Doordarshan channels. When we started out last year there were six channels : one was the national channel; one was entertainment channel; one was culture; one was music and so on. But as a result of that we have started, what is known as channel management, from the first of February. We shall keep on reviewing it at periodic intervals and if required we shall make necessary changes. In this, we will be guided by the sentiments of both the Houses and the practical conditions on ground. There was a point raised on the programmes being beamed by foreign satellites. Someone said that about fifty satellites will be up in the sky. But media experts say that there will be 118 satellites beaming on to India and you can see them provided you use the dish. While people are objecting to seeing the

Doordarshan channels by installing a dish, the same hesitation is not there while trying to see Star TV. So, the satellite channels can be seen by putting up an appropriate dish. We do not believe in banning. We do not believe in jamming. Jamming is totally against International Telecommunication Agreement. Banning may lead to abridgement of the freedom of expression, freedom of free How of information and freedom of some of our fundamental rights.

But the fact is that the programmes on foreign satellites do not come within the ambit of laws of (his country. As a result of the discussions in both the Houses, we have taken an initiative at the level of my department—the Secretary's level and at the Joint Secretary's level—to try to contact the officers of these foreign satellites who are operating in India. We have given vent to the sentiments of both the Houses. We have even written to our High Commissioners and Ambassadors abroad where these television channels are operating so that those Governments are also informed that these satellite channels are an anti-thesis to our morality, our culture, and are affecting the sensibility of our people. This is the initiative we had taken last month. Somebody also mentioned that some big media barons came. Well, media barons, if they come, we do not know whether they are barons or knights or dukes or counts. Newspapers give all sorts of titles and sub-titles to various people. And if such "barons" come, it is totally private. But, as far as Rupert Murdoch is concerned, he did come. I had occasion to meet him in my office and we did exchange pleasantries. When he called on the Prime Minister, he was told—a press note has also come out—by the Prime Minister very specifically and categorically that some of the programmes which were coming were not appreciated and that they were not in consonance with our culture and our social ethos. And I think he has got the message and his reaction also came out in the newspapers.

Regarding agricultural programmes, I have already mentioned about their frequency, duration, and contents.

There was another question on the decline in viewership of the Doordarshan news. Here is an item from the *Sunday Times* of 13th February. It is not a Government newspaper at all. There was a questionnaire on 'Welcome half-an-hour'; it was about the news. It showed that 91 per cent watched the Doordarshan news, 24 per cent watched the BBC news and 78 per cent welcomed the idea of the extended news duration to half-an-hour. The next question was : "Do you watch the evening news ?" In reply to this question, 93 per cent said, "Yes" and 7 per cent said, "No". The next question was : "On which channel do you watch the news ?" The reply was, 91 per cent "on Doordarshan" and 24 per cent "on BBC". The third question was : "Was it a good idea to extend it to half-an-hour ?" In reply to this, 78 per cent said, "Yes", 19 per cent said, "No", 3 per cent said, "Can't say"...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Was this the survey done after 1st February when the form at was changed and the time was extended ? I believe you are quoting the news item of 13th February which was the latest survey.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Yes. And as far as the visual content of the news bulletins is concerned, at the moment, we are carrying about 20 to 22 visual items and we are even trying to get the paperless news which means that the three segments get synchronised, like in the case of the BBC and other advanced countries, so that when the news reader is saying something, the same visual, which he or she is describing, comes, thereby having audio-visual synchronisation. So, the moment that is acquired, we shall see to it that there is no cause for criticism on the synchronisation taking place on visuals not being enough in our news contexts.

I also mentioned about the credibility which some of the Members had raised. The relevant credibility and instant news reporting was witnessed at the time of the Latur and Hazratbal incidents. It is our constant endeavour to maintain such instant reportings. And such occasions

when it has to be criticised for being late or for not being relevant or for not being timely will be minimal. I cannot say that it will be removed totally because, Madam, Doordarshan does not have staff reporters like other organisations where they are spread throughout the country. We depend on various news agencies as well as the All India Radio. So, Doordarshan still does not have manpower of its own and it has to depend on certain agencies. But in spite of various constraints, it is doing a very commendable job. Especially at the time of bomb blasts, it was Doordarshan and All India Radio which, through each bulletin, tried to keep the people informed of the exact facts so that panic did not set in. This was also commented upon by the Maharashtra Government and others. Doordarshan is improving. It is trying to streamline and increase its efficiency.

Many Members spoke about the Doordarshan coverage, of it being partisan to the Congress Party or the ruling party. I have figures with me for the year 1993 and for the months January, February and March of 1994. I think it will be much better if I give the latest figures.

In January, the Congress Party got— it is in terms of lines—606, BJP 115, Janata Dai-National Front 51, CPM 38, CPI 18, National Conference 19 and others 50.

SHRI M. A. BABY (Kerala) : Will the Minister please explain .. . (*interruptions*).. .

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : I am not yielding.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN 'SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : The Minister is not yielding. Let him finish. It is already 7.10 p.m.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : In February, the Congress Party got 161, BJP 177, Janata Dai-National Front 80, CPM 47.

In March, the Congress Party got 533, BJP 172, Janata Dai-National Front 138, CPM 96, CPI 58 and others 88.

I will leave the matter to the wisdom of the House to say whether Doordarshan has been partisan to the Congress Party and blacked out the Opposition parties. I have given the figures.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri V. Narayana-samy) in the Chair]

I have spoken about film certification. Then, some Members spoke about the telecast of Hero Cup match. After two hours of debate which you had graciously initiated, after hearing the whole Ramayanam, if you ask me who Sita is, I will have to repeat the entire story. The fact is that every country in the world, whether it is the United States or India or Japan or the Great Britain or the Soviet Union, has a prescribed law, has a prescribed route in accordance with which permission is granted to others. At that time, Doordarshan felt that it could not agree to something which was totally against the constitution, against the law of the land, whether it is the archaic Telegraph Act, 1885 or the Wireless Act, 1830. It was commented upon by the foreigners who came here as invitees and who had a 1215 AD Magna Carta Act and who said that our laws were archaic. They had the gumption and audacity to say that we were archaic. If one looks at the US law, it was only two years younger than ours. Ours was 1885 and theirs was 1887. Even when our Constitution came into force, these laws were accepted without any change. Both the Houses of Parliament, in their wisdom, have not thought it fit to amend these laws. Even though some sections were amended, the laws still hold good. It was this which prompted Doordarshan to stick to its principle and to say that it would not surrender the sovereignty of the motherland. But it was compelled by the Court to co-operate with the foreign multinationals. It was in deference to the wishes of the Court that Doordarshan had done so. And because these points were raised, two of my young officers are still facing the contempt of court proceedings. I wish I had known at that time, and then I would have put myself in such a position that I would have also faced the contempt charge, rather than

agreeing to the surrender of the sovereignty of our motherland. I think, Doordarshan did the right thing by opposing an illegal, unconstitutional thing. And it was only the courts which compelled them to co-operate with a foreign multinational. And it raised a lot of acrimony. In this entire thing, I am only worried, Sir, the World Cup is coming in 1996, and even now the vested interests have started a canard against Doordarshan. You must know the facts that the Doordarshan or the Information & Broadcasting Ministry has got nothing to do with either World Cup or with Transworld or Worldtel or anything. If anyone wishes to come to this country to telecast, he has to take the permission from the Ministry of Communications. He has to take permission from the Finance Ministry for getting exemption for his equipment <md to take it out as TBRE—Tourist Bag Re-entry Permit. The I&B Ministry does not come into the picture anywhere. If the Home Ministry, the Defence Ministry, the Finance Ministry and the Communications Ministry want to permit any foreign party to come, they are at liberty to do so. That is what the law says. They do not have to consult the I&B Ministry. But if they consult the I&B Ministry, the I&B Ministry will not be a party to any illegal act because then the I&B Ministry will place it on record in Parliament, and we will bring it to the notice of the Government that it is an illegal thing to allow any foreign party to come and uplink from India when the law, the Constitution and the Allocation of Business Rules specifically mention that it is only the Government which can uplink. Till now there is no law in this country allowing anyone other than Doordarshan to uplink. I just wanted to put the record straight. And I do hope that the World Cup, 1996, will be held in India, India will be the host, and it will telecast. We, including myself, would like to see 1996 World Cup, and I am sure that all the sister Ministries and the nodal Ministry, the Sports Ministry will have the way for that so that all the Indians can see it. But please do not bring a red herring known as Doordarshan or I&B Ministry. The I&B Ministry has

nothing to do with this. The world rights have been given by the Committee to Worldtel. They are most welcome to have any agreement. And the I&B Ministry is not even in the mailing list. Neither the I&B Ministry would like to know what the contract is and for how much money and in which foreign bank they money is going to be deposited. We are not wanting to do. It is not the job of the I&B Ministry. I placed all these Hero Cup material in Parliament during the Winter Session of Parliament. I do hope somebody will pick up those facts and enquire as to what happened in CCB because Doordarshan still has not been paid Rs. 50 lakhs. And still it is facing the contempt of court proceedings.

**श्री जगदीश प्रसाद काबूर :** बहुत ही गया। ठीक है ।

**श्री के. पी. सिंह बबे :** अभी बहुत है, भाई । आपने तो बहुत खयाल पूछा है ।  
:Regarding the increase in duration of evening National News

Regarding the increase in duration of evening National News bulletin to half an hour, I have already mentioned it.

.. (अवधान) ... आप लोग तो कह देंगे । यह सब अखबार में निकलेगा । .. (अवधान) ...

I must give you an adequate reply.  
**नहीं तो एकरफा निकलेगा । .. (अवधान)**

About the repeat telecast of one Tamil film four times, a point made by you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, as per the schedule of programmes drawn for Doordarshan Channel-4 on which *inter-alia* Tamil programmes are also telecast, a feature film telecast on Monday at 5 p.m. is retecast on Wednesday at 12.30 p.m. Similarly, a Tamil film telecast on the first and third Fridays of the month at 5 p.m. is repeated on the first and third Saturdays at 12.30 p.m. Sir, here some Members say that we must repeat the classics, something like the Surabhi, and the Discovery of India. There are others who

ask : "Why are you showing old films ? You must show new films everyday." When the BBC shows First World War movies, the war scenes of the First World War and the Second World War, they are considered good. If Doordarshan shows anything which is two years' old, which is a classic, it is criticised. There are Members like some of us who would like to see some of the old classics—some of our youngsters would like to know our heritage and see some of the old films. So, Doordarshan is actually in a Catch-22 situation. If it shows old movies as a repetition, they are criticised and if they do not show, they are again criticised. Either way they are criticised. Heads I win; tail you lose. So, the film in question was Guru-Shishya and was scheduled for telecast on 18th February. Due to State mourning, the film was actually telecast on 19th February at 12.30 p.m. Due to non-availability of the Tamil feature film scheduled to be telecast on 31-2-94, the above-mentioned film was re-telecast on Monday, 21-2-94 at 5 p.m. Since the Monday feature film was to be repeated on Wednesday, the said film was again telecast at 12.30 p.m. on the 23rd. That is how the same film was shown four times. I have also replied to you and I am sure you received my reply.

You had also mentioned about the delay in clearance of the titles of newspapers and periodicals. In certain cases, it takes two to three years. That is what you mentioned. Sir, under the present Registration of Books Act of 1867, it is mandatory for a publisher to have the title of his paper or periodical cleared from the Press Registrar, that is, the Registrar of Newspapers in India—RNI. Once the title is cleared by the Press Registrar, it is treated as the property of the owner/publisher and the same title cannot be issued in favour of others. At present, over two lakh titles are blocked. Therefore, at times, the title proposed by a publisher is not available. In such cases, the publisher is informed of the non-availability of the title and he is asked to suggest an alternative title. This process usually delays the matter as more than one back reference has to be made.

Moreover, all such applications for title clearance are necessary to be routed through the concerned District Magistrate who is not under the I&B Ministry. He is under the respective State Government, which also sometimes adds to the delay. Title clearance process in the office of the Registrar of Newspapers in India has been computerised. In case the title is available, it is generally cleared without any delay. Delay occurs only when the title is blocked and correspondence has to be entered into with the publisher. We require two hands to clap. I am not saying that we are totally perfect or that there is no delay at our end. But delay is also caused at the other end and, therefore, to blame the Ministry for all the delay will not be very fair. Next point was about unhappiness over the functioning of the Field Publicity Units. In fact, my distinguished predecessor, Mr. Upendra, also referred to the Field Publicity Units. Some other Members also said that three years before they were very good and now they are not so good and that there is a lot to be desired in that. I quite agree. There is always scope for improvement and we feel that the Field Publicity Unit is a very potent organisation which, in my own perception, is more potent than even Doordarshan and the All India Radio because it is a two-way communication. Neither the AIR nor Doordarshan is two-way. Field publicity has interaction communication with the people and we are trying to make it more effective. The last one was in your own home State, in Pondicherry, where His Excellency the Governor and you were present and they are doing a very fine job. They have done some Sadbhavana Samaroh in many of the States. A colleague of mine in the Lok Sabha, who does not belong to the ruling party, wanted them to stay back in Hassan. Even after one week, he wanted them to stay back for another four days. Therefore, we allowed them to stay back there. This was because he wanted them and their programmes there.

Therefore, Sir, they are improving. We will try to equip them with the wherewithal. Here, I would like to assure

my distinguished predecessor, Mr. Upendra. He said that we should see to it that the leaner and the smaller it is, the more efficient is the fighting machine. This is exactly what we are trying to do. At the ground level, at the cutting-edge level, we are trying to bring about more cohesiveness so that we can share each other's resources and make it into a more mobile, effective and efficient thing at the ground level. Wherever necessary, we will review it. I can assure him that we will review this thing and see as to how best we can pool our resources to make it into a more efficient organisation.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, you mentioned about Shri Sivaji Ganesan. He is a great actor. He had been a Member of this House. He has been my colleague. We have all great respect for him. Why only the South ? The entire film world has great respect for him. But the fact is, the Government does not decide as to who is going to be the Chief Guest. In this case, it was neither the West Bengal Government, nor the Government of India. Therefore, there is no question of any pressure or pull. There was no question of any pressurisation as such. Sir, the Film Federation of India—traditionally—is consulted in regard to the Chief Guest at an International Film Festival. Once they decide and intimate the Ministry, the Ministry writes a D.O. letter to the person concerned, inviting him. In the case of Shri Sivaji Ganesan, you are very right, Sir, that his name was proposed. But when he declined to come, there was a time-gap. Then, the Film Federation of India took a different decision. In the interim period, unfortunately or fortunately, some Press statements appeared which vitiated the atmosphere. The West Bengal Government also wrote to me. Later on, they withdrew that letter because they also realised that neither the State Government nor the Central Government had any role to play, barring accepting the recommendation of the Film Federation of India and writing a D.O. letter to the person concerned. This was what was done. Therefore, Sir, there is no disrespect meant to Shri Sivaji Ganesan either by the West Bengal Government or by

the Central Government. It is the total prerogative of the Film Federation of India to decide as to who the Chief Guest is? going to be.

Sir, in regard to your point about A.I.R. Pondicherry, we are upgrading it from 1 KV. to 20 KV. Medium Wave. It would be ready in 1995-96. I am sure, Sir, you would be there for the inauguration.

I would now like to mention about the Budget. In regard to the shortfalls, the hon. lady Member, who initiated the debate, mentioned about the Report of the Standing Committee. In 1992-93, there has been a shortfall. We admit it. But in respect of 1993-94, the total Budget was Rs. 383.32 crores. Out of this, Rs. 360.54 crores were from the Commercial Revenue Fund of Doordarshan and A.I.R. There was a shortfall of Rs. 47.23 crores in the utilisation of the budgetary provision in the case of A.I.R. This comes to 23.6 per cent. In the case of Doordarshan, there was a marginal excess of Rs. 0.18 crores. On the whole, in respect of Demand No. 56, the shortfall was Rs. 47.05 crores. This comes to 22.61 per cent of the budgetary provision. The reasons for the shortfall in the utilisation of the sanctioned Budget Grant; were :—this was reviewed and that is how we could say—firstly, defective formulation of the schemes leading to delayed approvals. Then, delays in acquisition of project sites as the land has to be acquired through the revenue authorities of the State Governments, delays in civil construction works as the tendering procedure for the award of work has to be followed, delays after award of contracts due to remoteness of areas and disturbed conditions, delays inherent in the purchase procedures in regard to purchase of equipment and delays in supply of equipment and delays by the suppliers—and I have told you that there are only two companies in India. Now we are trying to get over it. I will tell you the steps we have taken.

Further, the Ministry did not have the powers to sanction group A posts, which you very kindly mentioned, Sir, which many other Members also mentioned, which my distinguished predecessor also knows. The Ministry had powers to sanction only up to group D, C and B posts, till he was

Minister. Now, composite proposals involving group A posts and group B, C and D posts have to be referred to the Ministry of Finance. The delay in sanctioning of the posts is one of the main reasons for the shortfall in utilizing the revenue budget. The power to sanction group B, C and D posts has since been withdrawn by the Ministry of Finance on 28th March 1994. So, I hope I will be able to meet the deadline in 1995-96. My project will be ready, but it may not start because without human resources I cannot start. All the proposals for creating Plan posts will have to be referred to the Ministry of Finance, and any delay in the creation of these posts can have an adverse effect on the investment already made on the installation of the main items. As delays in site acquisition has been a major factor in the delayed implementation of sanctioned projects, the Ministry has decided to allow AIR and Doordarshan to acquire sites in respect of schemes included in the Plan, and advance administrative approval for the schemes by the competent authority. So the major bottleneck in project implementation is expected to be eliminated.

I must give a little inkling of what a competent authority is. There are certain projects which can be decided in the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. There are certain projects on which a representative each of the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Planning have to meet. The thing has to be circulated, and until that does not happen, this project cannot come up. That is how the Vijayawada and the Allahabad studios—for which the foundation stones were laid by my distinguished predecessor and the Prime Minister, respectively, in 1990—were held up. The Economic Finance Committee (EFC) had not cleared it till 14th September 1993. Now the EFC has cleared both of them. Even though there is no allocation in this year's budget, I can assure that sometime in the month of June we shall definitely start the Vijayawada studio in deference to the fact that Mr. Upendra was the I & B Minister. So also the Allahabad studio because, after all, it was the former Prime Minister who laid its foundation stone. Now we have streamlined the thing as a result of the review. It has now been

recognized that the system of project monitoring needs to be streamlined. Accordingly, the Zonal Chief Engineers have been instructed to review all the projects of AIR and Doordarshan within their jurisdiction on a fortnightly basis and report the status to the respective Engineers-in-Chief in AIR and Doordarshan. In respect of projects over Rs. 20 crores, a monthly review meeting is now being taken by the Secretary, I & B, on the last Friday of every month. These projects are reviewed on a bimonthly basis by the Minister of I & B.

; ; JI>

Orders for equipment were being placed earlier on public sector undertakings only, and the PSUs, in return, purchased the requisite equipment and components and supplied them after integration to AIR and Doordarshan. In order to remove the delays involved in this process, AIR and Doordarshan are now being allowed to directly import the equipment. This was done only recently. Till now I have been facing criticism on behalf of the I & B Ministry and Doordarshan because we were holding on to the hand of the public sector undertakings. They were not delivering on schedule and we were under pressure—as my distinguished predecessor has said and my colleagues from both the Houses from the States in which we have to meet the deadline have been saying—because otherwise a lot of money gets lapsed and again there is criticism. So we have allowed AIR and Doordarshan to import, in case the PSUs are unable to meet the deadline. In order to remove delays involved in the process, further it has been decided that in respect of the prestigious project ... (*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : No, no. The Minister is going to conclude now.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : For the Doordarshan Bhawan project at Mandi House the contract will be awarded on a turn-key basis. There was further delay. Three times it was started during Mrs. Gandhi's time when she was in the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. Now the work has started. These steps are expected to expedite project implementation and optimum utilisation of Plan

funds. If necessary, we will review it again and take corrective steps.

The main point was on the Prasar Bharati. The Prasar Bharati Bill, as you know, Sir, was introduced by Shri Upendra when he was the M.I.B. It was passed by both the Houses and it received President's assent. But certain amendments had to be brought because there was a lacuna that the people who were to join the Prasar Bharati had certain misgivings. Therefore, my distinguished predecessor, Shri Ajit Kumar Panja gave an assurance in 1992 that the Government would consult the leaders of political parties as well as the association and then bring it again. We completed it in December. The government is seriously considering it. As the hon. Member, Mr. Upendra realises it as an after-thought after four years, the situation in the country does compel us to take a look at the various provisions of the Bill. Therefore, the Government is considering the various ramifications and implications of the Bill. I am hopeful that once that study is over, I shall be able to bring the Bill to both the Houses of Parliament.

Sir, I have answered the point about the Central Board of Film Certification on the 11th of May. That is only a few days back. As a result of the discussions held in this House and in the other House, we are having a meeting. We will be taking! the views of the hon. lady Members also to make it more stringent and more effective. There is a Bill pending in this House. I do hope that the hon. Members and the Chair would help me in getting this Bill passed as soon as possible.

Sir, regarding Doordarshan, the satellite channels, the onslaught and the invasion, I would like to say that it was not a knee-jerk reaction at all, unlike what respected Shir Gujral and some other Members said. The fact is that our scientists in the ISRO had five transponders meant for the I&B Ministry, which were lying idle since January, 1993. The Space Department which had invested the money, kept on pressing the Information and Broadcasting Ministry and even complained that the Information and Broadcasting Ministry was not utilising

those five transponders which had been earmarked for it. Therefore, the I&B Ministry only responded to that there were utilisation five transponders. That is how the Metro Hour, later the Metro Channel and then six channels, that is the main channel and five other satellite-derived channels through INSAT-2B, came into being. We were willing to commit mistakes because we wanted to try our technical competence about the signals generated by INSAT-2B on the five satellite channels. We wanted to try the marketability. That was the time when the ATC, the Air Time Committee resigned. We could not afford to lose the opportunity. So, we had no other way than to fall back on the Department.

When the Government at the Cabinet level had taken a decision regarding the allocation of time on the second channel, when the Air Time Committee resigned and went away there was nothing else to do, but to fall on another Committee. That Committee we may or may not have, but we tried to keep most of the recommendations in that background. When we were about to do it on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August, there was this court case which I quoted and which has just now been vacated by the Supreme Court. Now, we will have a scheme and bring it into operation so that the six satellite channels are fully utilised. The total time will be 14,400 hours per year or 44 hours per day.

My distinguished predecessor, Mr. Upendra, wanted to know if it was true that with half the capacity of the CPC and other production centres, they are not being utilised. The COWs have bound the hands of the Doordarshan. They can only commission, sponsor, resource and produce in CPC. Therefore, there will be an idle capacity. When we have 14,400 hours, it is not that the Doordarshan is going to produce the software. Doordarshan is providing a platform for 90 crore Indians to produce that. Any talented person from the FT 11 from Jamia Milia or from any other institute will get the chance. The efficacy and the quality of the success of it will depend upon whether he can get sponsors or advertisers or whether his viewers will accept him or reject him, I will give you one instance.. Last year when we

started this channel in an experimental way, we brought a film called Dallas. Dallas ran for 12 years in the United States. That Dallas flopped here in 12 weeks. So, Dallas had to go back. So, ultimately it is the viewers who will judge what the quality is, whether it is good, bad or indifferent. It is not K. P. Singh Deo or Bhaskar Ghosh or R. Basu that are going to matter tangibly, because ultimately it is the viewers who have been accepting the Doordarshan programmes during the last one year in spite of the challenges in spite of so many beams coming into India, in spite of High Court cases, in spite of Supreme Court cases being tried. Still Doordarshan has earned Rs. 17 crores more of revenue than what it earned last year. At the same time it has done a number of regional programmes which are all there in the Annual Report. I do not wish to repeat 'and waste the time of the House.

On the question of imposition of Hindi I had given answers here in this House and in the other House. Two hon. Members from Tamil Nadu had asked it. Actually the Tamil programmes are for 15 minutes more than the Hindi programmes as far as Madras is concerned. There are Hindi programmes only during the news time, in the prime time it is the Tamil programmes. Therefore, it is not correct to say that there is imposition of Hindi or that Hindi imperialism is going on. In fact, in Madras itself it is 15 minutes more. I have given a categorical assurance that after May, the Tamil programme content is going to increase by two and half-an-hour more. So, now it will be two hours forty-five minutes more than the Hindi programmes. On distance education, we would like 10 utilise it. We are already in touch with the UGC, but not with NCERT. As soon as we have more channels we have more flexibility of action. When we have 20 channels, then the demand for different types of programmes will be considered. Then we can consider the demand of one channel for culture, one for literature, one for Parliament, one for this and one for that. My distinguished predecessor had only one channel to play around. I know he must have had a harried time here in both the Houses. I am more fortunate than he was since I have 'at least six chan-



nels. We are able to meet some of (he demands. Now, when we have twenty channels and once the Government takes a considered view on Prasar Bharati, what shape it will take and when the satellite channels will be handed-over, whether the main channel will be handed over and whether the Doordarshan will be a public corporation, when all these things are decided, we will meet all the points that are being raised now. Sir, let me also assure you—which has also come in the print—that there is no bureaucratic or political interference either in the news or in the programme. Perhaps, you may like to see INDIA TODAY, the latest issue. They have gone into the entire gamut of it. Now, at least more professional outlook has come into Doordarshan. There is appreciation of Doordarshan programmes not only in this country but outside also which I had mentioned earlier. Therefore, things are turning. Please give us sometime. The CNN also took long time to reach the place of eminence during the Gulf War. We have not even completed seven months of service in satellite signals from Insat-IIB. If you ask a baby who has not yet started crawling to start running like Ben Johnson it is asking for the impossible.

As for as telecasting of Australia cricket tournament at Sharjah is concerned, in fact, Doordarshan had requested WorldTel for telecasting rights of the tournament, as soon as it was known that India was going to participate. However, the right holders, WorldTel did not respond. Finally, we had to take only the highlights. That is why live telecast of the tournament was not given. We cannot show anything and everything where we do not have TV. rights; otherwise we will be facing the Supreme Court and High Court. I have tried to meet most of the important points made by many hon. Members. I must once again compliment them and thank them for their constructive suggestions. I accept them in letter and spirit. I will discuss them with my officers and see that whatever is practical and what is possible is done and we will try to keep their words of wisdom in our mind.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : Mr. Minister, I think you have covered most of the points raised by Members. You have answered them elaborately.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : I must respond to the point made by Shri I. K. Gujral. He said, "What does the future hold for Doordarshan ?" Sir, Doordarshan was there yesterday. Doordarshan is there today. Doordarshan will be there tomorrow and in future also. What is happening is that on the information super highway telecommunication and television are getting not only closer—as Mr. Upendra has said—but they are also becoming an integral part. Today, by fibre optics, by a single strand, you will have telephone, teleprint, radio, television. It is a mind-boggling activity. Our engineers are on to it. They are applying their minds as they have done for digital compression. I am very proud of the engineers of the AIR and Doordarshan. They have done a magnificent job in 1976, in 1982 and 1987. They are doing a magnificent job today also. Even with more resources, European engineers have not succeeded whereas our engineers with very little resources are doing the job with a lot of confidence. Please give us sometime and we will deliver the goods. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI HIPHEI : I am glad to hear from the Minister that a lot of improvements have been made by the I&B Ministry. But my State, Mizoram, seems to be unaffected by those improvements.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : We are coming to Lunglei.

SHRI HIPHEI : Today, we have one All India Radio station in Aizawl, the capital of Mizoram. But that station cannot be heard by the rural people. So, I would like to request the Minister to provide two more AIR stations in Mizoram because it is a hilly terrain. It is very difficult to hear. That is one point.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : In the North-East, buildings and equipment are ready but without staff. I cannot open it.

SHRI HIPHEI : Recently I had been to my native place Saiha. There I saw on the T.V. one announcer reading the news. There was some dispute. The picture was not clear. The voice was not clear. The sound was not clear. Some said, "Is a human being reading the news or is a horse galloping ?" I would like to know from the Minister whether he is going to improve these things.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : The Minister said that he would be visiting your State and he would take steps to improve it.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Mr. Vice-Chairman, .....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : He has elaborately answered all the points raised by Members.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : We have given a number of suggestions regarding the revamping of the other units, not only the Radio and Doordarshan. Let him respond to that. What is he going to do?

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Sir, some very important suggestions were made by Mr. Upendra. I would like to say that we shall definitely analyse the suggestions regarding the revamping of the media other than the electronic media.

**श्री सारदा महन्ती (उड़ीसा) :** महोदय, दूरदर्शन में जो संसद् समाचार दिखाते हैं उसमें हम लोग हाउस में किसी अहम मुद्दे पर बोलते हैं लेकिन यह आता है कि अमुक सदस्य ने यह मुद्दा उठाया । हम लोग जो मुद्दा उठाते हैं उसके बारे में नहीं बोलते हैं । दूसरा मेरा कहना यह है कि सदस्यों के नाम भी चलते बोलते हैं जैसे हमारे सदस्य हैं प्रभात कुमार सामन्तराय उनकी परबत सामन्तराय बोलते हैं । मंत्री क्या इसको ठीक करेंगे ?

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Sir, be is from Orissa. I am also from Orissa. Why is he speaking in Hindi (*Interruptions*). I have no objection if he speaks in Oriya. Even if he abuses me, he can do so in Oriya.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : No. The other Members would also have to know what he speaks.

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY : In the Parliament News which is being telecast on Doordarshan, the news leaders only take the names of the hon'ble Member\* who raise different issues in the House, but the subjects on which they speak are never referred in the news.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : Mohantyji, you cannot speak in Oriya. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Here, you want unshackling from the controls of bureaucracy and politicians. At the same time, do not want me to interfere with the news and ask them to mention such and such name. Whatever parliamentary reporting is done is on the basis of the recommendations of the Geeta Mukherjee Committee. She is a distinguished member of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of I & B. If there have been some aberrations, there is nothing that we can do, Sir.

SHRI HIPHEI : He has not replied to my question, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : The Minister has said that he will come to your State to solve the problems.

Now, the discussion on the working of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is over. We shall take up the discussion on the working of the Ministry of Rural Development Smt. Mira Das.

**DISCUSSION ON THE WORKING OF  
THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

SHRIMATI MIRA DAS (Orissa) :  
Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, for  
giving me this opportunity. I think it  
would be better if I make my speech  
tomorrow. So, I may be permitted to  
continue tomorrow.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.  
NARAYANASAMY) : All right. The

discussion on the working of the Ministry  
of Rural Development will continue  
tomorrow.

Now the House is adjourned till  
11 a.m. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at  
fifty-three minutes past seven of  
the clock till eleven of the clock  
on Friday, the 29th April, 1994.