

persons or to members of their family, who have rendered distinguished service through AIR/TV and are in indigent circumstances i.e. their income (including pensions) must not exceed Rs. 1000/- per month.

(d) Only 7, Sir.

Sale of Video Cassettes of Film Adi Shankaracharya

1304. SHRI RAM DEO BHANDARI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of video cassettes of the film Adi Shankaracharya sold by the National Films Development Corporation since its production;

(b) what is the number out of these which were sold abroad;

(c) whether National Films Development Corporation is aware of its scarcity in the market; and

(d) if so, what measures are being taken to make adequate number of cassettes available ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) So far National Film Development Corporation has sold 104 video cassettes of the film Adi Shankaracharya in Sanskrit sub-titled in English.

(b) No cassette was sold abroad.

(c) and (d) The cassettes of the film are available through National Film Development Corporation offices in India. This fact has been advertised in the Newspapers.

All India Radio's Commercial Vividh Bharati Stations

1305. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of All India Radio Commercial Vividh Bharati Stations which are functioning in the country;

(b) what is the yearly and monthly revenue income of each such station;

(c) whether AIR Commercial Services are still profitable in comparison to Doordarshan and whether this broadcasting and programmes can be listened in Pakistan, Bangladesh, Srilanka, Bhutan and Nepal;

(d) whether Government propose to relay AIR commercial service on external transmitters; and

(e) what is the number of new commercial stations that are envisaged during the Eight Five Year Plan period and in which States ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) Thirty, Sir.

(b) The gross revenue from each Vividh Bharati Station during 1991-92, is given in Statement-I (See below).

(c) All India Radio and Doordarshan are two different media and as such cannot be compared. However, AIR's net revenue from the commercials i.e. revenue after excluding the commission, discount, and the cost of commercial operations was Rs. 21.79 crores and Rs. 26.03 crores during 1990-91 and 1991-92, respectively.

The Vividh Bharati/Commercial Service is a part of the home service of AIR and is not directed to or designed for the neighbouring countries.

(d) Yes, Sir. The full-fledged Gulf Service which is proposed to be introduced as and when the shortwave transmitters being installed at Panaji for the purpose are ready, envisages a commercial component.

(e) Ten, Sir. State-wise break-up is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Gross Revenue earnings during 1991-92 by different Vividh Bharati/Commercial Centres of All India Radio

1. Delhi	. . .	3,69,27,282
2. Calcutta	. . .	2,24,69,749