

Gazette Notification for Officers of Doordarshan

3454. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the posts of TVNCS\ANCS/ANES in doordarshan are in the category of Group A for which gazette notification are necessary;
- (b) whether it is a fact that no notification has been issued, so far;
- (c) whether the gazette notification were issued in respect of producers who were regularized by the same order;
- (d) whether the notifications were prepared in 1997 and 2009 but were not sent for publication;
- (e) whether their recruitment rules have not been prepared even after 21 years; and
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) The post of TVNCs in Doordarshan is in the pay scale of Group 'A'. However gazette notification is necessary only in case of conscious decision to treat concerned officers as gazetted officers. There is no such decision on record in respect of TVNCs etc.

- (b) Yes Sir.
- (c) Yes Sir.
- (d) Draft Recruitment Rules have not been finalized so far.
- (e) and (f) Recruitment Rules of TVNCs/TVANCs/TVANEs are under finalization in consultation with the nodal departments.

Telecast of religion-related channels

†3455. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the foreign television channels of religious effects are being illegally telecasted in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that not only Government is losing revenue due to illegal transmission of Islamic television channels but this also raises security related concerns of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) Some instances of unauthorized channels being shown have been brought to the notice of this Ministry. Whenever these instances are noticed State Governments are asked to take strict action against those cable operators who show unauthorized channels. Under the provisions of Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act 1995 and the Rules framed thereunder, no Satellite TV channel can be telecast in the country unless authorized by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) No Sir. Government realizes revenue only from channels which are permitted. Though, the transmission of illegal channel is an offence under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, no security related concern in this respect has been brought to the notice of this Ministry. However, in order to ensure that no unregistered channel is carried on the cable network, monitoring committees have been constituted at the State level and at the District level. The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 has provision for authorized officers which include District Magistrates, Sub-Divisional Magistrates, Commissioners of Police to take action against the cable operators in case of carriage of unregistered channels.

Media coverage of sensitive incidents

3456. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalized guidelines for live coverage of sensitive incidents like the Mumbai terror attacks by the electronic media; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of entertainment and news channels

3457. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a large number of demands for setting up of new entertainment and news channels;

(b) if so, whether Government has drawn up any parameters on eligibility of the applicants and viability of the channel to ensure job security for their employees;

(c) whether Government has also assessed the extent of availability of spectrum needed for setting up of new channels in consultation with the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) Yes Sir. Many applications have been received for permission for new channels. As on date, 157 applications are pending for permission to uplink from India and 14 applications are pending for permission to downlink in India.

(b) Detailed eligibility criteria and other requirements for private satellite TV channels have been prescribed in the Guidelines for Uplinking from India and Policy Guidelines for Downlinking of Television Channels. The Guidelines do not provide for job security of the employees of the channels.

(c) and (d) A reference has been made by this Ministry to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in October 2009. Among other things, TRAI has been requested to examine the maximum number of channels which can be permitted in the country keeping in view the available spectrum and transponder capacities as well as technological developments and general practice internationally.