

Criteria for fixing subscription to news agencies by All India Radio and Doordarshan

1941. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria followed by the All India Radio and T.V. in fixing subscription to news agencies;

(b) the amount of subscription given annually to (i) P.T.I., (ii) U.N.I., (iii) Samachar Bharati and (iv) Hindustan Samachar during the years 1983 and 1984;

(c) the reasons for ignoring the principle of equal treatment among equals; and

(d) what steps Government are taking to remove the discriminatory criteria which affect adversely multi-lingual news agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) The main criterion is the service rendered by a news-agency and its coverage for the purposes of AIR and TV news bulletins

(b) The amount of subscription paid annually during the financial years 1983-84 and 1984-85 is as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1983-84	1984-85
P.T.I.	22.94	22.94
U.N.I.	17.06	17.06
Hindustan Samachar	3.25	3.25
Samachar Bharati	3.25	3.25

(c) and (d) The question of inequality or discrimination does not arise as the rates are fixed on the basis of the service rendered by the news agencies.

Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited

1942. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received several complaints about the mismanagement and misconduct of the Board of Directors in the affairs of the Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Government nominee on the Board of the KRIBHCO has not extended co-operation in the matter of information on the affairs;

(c) whether Government have found *prima facie* charges of mismanagement; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) to (c) I.O., Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Appointment of agents by the Publications Division

1943. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agents appointed by the Publications Division to secure advertisements in journals and periodicals published by them; and

(b) the criteria, qualifications, terms and remuneration paid to agents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) There are four Advertisement Representatives who have been appointed by the Publications Division to procure display advertisements.