

Recovery of outstanding dues of Doordarshan

3627. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan have yet to recover crores of rupees from Sagar Arts, Cinevistaas Limited, Adhikari Brothers, UTV and several other production houses;

(b) if so, the details of outstanding dues with interest thereof as on 31 October, 2010, company-wise; and

(c) the steps Government is proposing to take to register FIRs against defaulting producers to recover outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) Yes, Sir. Prasara Bharati has informed that Doordarshan has claims against a number of Production Houses. Arbitration proceedings have been invoked against Sagar Enterprises, Cinevista Television, Adhikari Brothers, UTV etc.

(b) Prasara Bharati has informed that the details of outstanding dues with interest as on 31st Oct, 2010 in respect of the companies are being computed.

(c) Prasara Bharati has further informed that as the non-payment of outstanding amounts results in civil dispute only, no FIR can be lodged against the defaulters. As such in terms of the agreement with the companies, arbitration proceedings have been resorted against them.

Enquiry against officers in Prasara Bharati

3628. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CEO Prasara Bharati, after being indicted by CVC for corruption, is conducting his personal enquiry against those officers who stood against him;

(b) whether such an action of CEO is nothing but to harass, intimidate and threaten witnesses and thereby exonerate himself;

(c) under what specific rules he has been allowed to hold enquiry against witnesses in a bid to have their statements changed; and

(d) the reasons for suspending CEO Prasar Bharati in the wake of serious corruption charges or remove from posts pending enquiry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) Yes, Sir. CVC in its report dated 16.7.2010 has established CEO Prasar Bharati to be responsible in respect of four out of seven allegations on which the enquiry was conducted. Prasar Bharati has reported that the CEO had sought comments from the officers and letters to this effect have been issued.

(b) and (c) No such conclusion can be drawn and no complaint with regard to forcing witnesses to change their statement has been received.

(d) CEO, Prasar Bharati has neither been suspended nor removed. However, the process under Section 7 of Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 has been initiated against him.

Filling up of posts of Himachali and Haryanavi folk singers

3629. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of posts sanctioned/exist for folk singers in Akashwani, region-wise;

(b) whether any post of Himachali and Haryanavi folk singers have not been filled in, so far and the said posts have been converted into the posts of other regional folk singers; such an action of CEO is nothing but to harass, intimidate and threaten witnesses and thereby exonerate himself;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when those posts are likely to be filled-up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) There are no sanctioned posts for folk singers in All India Radio (Akashwani).

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Amendments in programme code

3630. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state: