channels, in lieu of the basic service tier offered by the multi-system operator. It is also provided in clause 6(1D) that it shall be open to the subscriber of the digital addressable cable TV to subscribe to basic service tier or basic service tier and one or more pay channel or only free to air channels or only pay channels or pay channels and free to air channels. The said tariff order also has provisions in clause 8 to protect consumers against increase in prices of packages offered by the service providers. It provides that no service provider, who provides cable services using an addressable system to its subscribers, shall, increase the charges for a subscription package offered by him, for a minimum period of six months from the date of enrolment of the subscriber for such subscription package. However, this provision shall not prevent any service provider from reducing the price of the subscription package within the period of six months to the advantage of the subscriber. These provisions are aimed at facilitating and empowering consumers to have digital cable services with freedom to exercise their choices.

Reservation policy on casual appointments in AIR and DDKs

2544. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- whether Government follows reservation policy while engaging casual assignees for various posts in AIR and Doordarshan Kendra; and
- (b) if so, the details of the persons belonging to SC/ST who have been engaged as Casual News Reader cum Translator (CNRT) and to other various posts in various AIR across the country during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) No, Sir. Casual assignees are booked by various AIR and Doordarshan Kendras as per functional requirement for about 6-7 days in a month.

(b) Does not arise in view of the (a) above.

Launching separate educational channel

2545. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

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