

(b) by which date this will come into force; and

(c) whether any registration procedure is proposed to be adopted and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, Prasar Bharati has informed that they are contemplating to introduce a new SMS service by All India Radio to provide news headlines "free of cost", and this service would be available only to the willing mobile subscribers. Presently this service has been started on pilot basis. However, date of its official launch has not yet been decided. For this new service a mobile number has been identified and the general public is informed to subscribe to the proposed service by giving a missed call or sending SMS to the identified number.

AIR is also already providing SMS based value added services in AIR Programmes including news headlines to mobile users with effect from 15.02.2013 on short code 56060 provided by M/s. Tata Teleservices on chargeable basis. Under this service a mobile user can simply type the keyword AIRNEWS and send SMS to 56060.

Upgradation of facilities at AIR, Panaji

1033. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to upgrade and/or improve upon the facilities at All India Radio, Panaji;

(b) if so, the details of the improvements/ upgradation proposed;

(c) the status and number of permanent, non-permanent casual employees on contract working at All India Radio, and Doordarshan, Panaji;

(d) whether service matters with respect to employees or any of the categories mentioned in part '(c)' above are pending; and

(e) whether Government proposes to resolve those problems, if so, and by what date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) and (b) Following schemes have

been approved under "Digitalization of AIR Network" during Eleventh Five Year Plan to upgrade and/or improve upon the facilities at All India Radio, Panaji and are at various stages of implementation:

- Replacement of 100 kW MW Transmitter with DRM Transmitter.
- Replacement of 6 kW FM Transmitter.
- Digitalization of Studios and Networking.
- Digitalization of Regional News Unit (RNU).
- Digitalization of Studio to Transmitter Link (STL).

In addition to above, a scheme for setting up of 10 kW FM transmitter (Additional Channel) at Panaji is envisaged in the Twelfth Plan.

(c) **Status In respect of Doordarshan:** The sanctioned strength of various categories at Doordarshan Kendra, Panaji is 100 as on 29.05.2013. There are 31 posts lying vacant. The working strength of permanent employees is 69 and total number of non-permanent/casual employees on contract basis is 35.

Status in respect of All India Radio: The sanctioned strength of various categories at All India Radio, Panaji is 155. There are 73 posts lying vacant. The working strength of permanent employees is 82 and total number of non-permanent/casual employees on contract basis is 146.

(d) and (e) Section 11 of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 has been amended in the year 2012. This has settled the status of employees working in Prasar Bharati. Section 11 *inter-alia* provides that all officers and employees, borne in the cadres of Doordarshan and All India Radio, who were regularly recruited upto 05.10.2007 will be on deemed deputation to Prasar Bharati till retirement. The employees recruited after 05.10.2007 shall be Prasar Bharati employees.

Prasar Bharati Board has approved 125 Recruitment Regulations applicable to Prasar Bharati employees. Following inter-ministerial consultation with the Department of Personnel and Training and the Department of Expenditure, the Recruitment Regulations for six categories of employees have been notified.

Financial assistance to Kannada film producers

1034. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state: