

DTH Coverage of Prasar Bharati

2815. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the existing free-to-air DTH coverage of the Prasar Bharati across the country; and

(b) what is its future action-plan to extend its coverage to more households?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Doordarshan's Ku band Free-to-Air (Direct-to-Home) transmission service launched on 16th Dec. 2004 comprising thirty-three T.V. (19 Doordarshan and 14 private channels) besides twelve AIR channels is available to the viewers/listeners throughout the country (except A&N Islands) which can be received with the help of a small sized dish receive unit.

(b) The Government has permitted Doordarshan to raise the number of TV channels in the DTH bouquet from thirty three channels to fifty. Prasar Bharati has also started examining the technical and commercial feasibility to further expand the capacity of DTH platform to cover one hundred channels.

National Legal Literacy Day

2816. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently celebrated the National Legal Literacy Day;

(b) if so, whether Government had set any new objectives; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI V. VENKATAPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Legal Literacy Mission endeavours to empower the economically and socially disadvantaged citizens by making them legally literate. The three-way approach of the Mission focuses on-education

on legal right, education on fundamental duties and education on the availability and benefits of legal aid.

International Arbitration

2817. SHRI EM. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing to have statutory support for the International Arbitration hub in the country in the context of globalization of economy and trade; and

(b) if so, whether institutional development of excellence in International arbitration is on the anvil?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Supervision of subordinate courts

2818. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that High Court only supervises the subordinate courts;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that High Court does not have financial and administrative rights pertaining to the subordinate courts; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and whether judicial system is adversely affected as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (c) Article 233, 234 and 235 of the Constitution provide ample powers to the High Court of the concerned State in matters of administration of subordinate courts such as appointments of district judges, recruitment of persons other than district judges, the control over district courts and courts subordinate to it including posting and promotion and the grant of leave to persons belonging to the judicial service.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.