

Discrimination with TV NC/ANCs

2664. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that TV NC/ANCs appointed as DD in Senior Scales are stagnating without promotion since 1988;

(b) whether it is also a fact that even their designations were not changed despite recommendation by a committee and subsequently it was changed in various cases causing anomaly as TV ANEs are ANEs though IIS officers in junior scales are NEs/DDNs and contractual correspondents are special correspondents; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that they are not getting perks at par with officers of same scales as they are denied hospitality allowance, equal number of newspapers, official mobile/laptops, residential TV sets etc. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that TV NCs/ANCs were initially engaged as Artists on Casual contract basis for a period of six months in 1988. In March, 1989 it was decided to engage them as “Artists” on a fresh contract of 5 years. In May, 1993 they were declared as regular temporary Government Servants with retrospective effect *i.e.* 1988. In the absence of Recruitment Rules for this cadre there was no scope of promotion. However, eligible officers were given ACP/MACP. The Recruitment Rules for these employees have been notified on 24th March, 2014 which, *inter-alia*, provide for promotion to the higher grades, which would also result in change of their designations.

(c) Prasar Bharati has informed that TV NCs/ANCs are getting facilities such as reimbursement of mobile/telephone and newspapers according to their eligibility and work requirements.

Accessible telecast of all events and occasions

2665. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any measures to provide simultaneous sign language interpretation for telecasts on all Doordarshan channels on all important events and occasions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;