

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) Prasara 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) Prasara 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;

(c) whether there is no sign language interpretation for the Prime Minister's speech on the Teacher's Day;

(d) whether Government proposes to bring a standard policy to ensure accessible telecast for all events and occasions; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that DD News telecast sign language bulletin every day at 6.15 am. This year DD News has telecast the following events live alongwith a sign-language version in a small window:

- Republic Day Parade
- PM's speech on Independence Day.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan has a policy of covering events of national importance and public relevance through its network of national and regional channels and to make such telecast available to the widest cross sections of people through its terrestrial and commercial satellite telecasts and through its DTH platform. Doordarshan has also initiated live streaming of important events on its website and through YouTube.

Status of Nai Roshni

2666. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Scheme "Nai Roshni-Leadership Development of Minority Women", implemented in 2012;

(b) whether Government is taking any further initiatives to empower and instill confidence among the women belonging to minority communities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) The scheme for "Leadership Development of Minority Women" started in 2012-13, is continued with the brand name "Nai Roshni". The scheme aims to empower and instill confidence among minority women by providing knowledge, tools and techniques for interacting with Government systems,