

constituted to recommend a broad guideline/procedure which will set principles to guide the Board with respect to certification of films. The Committee submitted major part of its report on 26th April, 2016 and part II of its report is yet to be submitted. In addition, the Government is implementing a Plan Scheme which aims at making the entire certification process of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) to ensure complete end to end on-line process from application to issue of certificate.

First TV station in Karnataka

1911. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the first TV station in Karnataka and by when it was started and what was the timing of broadcasting in the beginning;
- (b) what is the broadcast timing now; and
- (c) whether Ministry will take any special steps to extend timing and improvement of broadcasting system for welfare of the people and to maintain the historical background of the TV station in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (c) Prasara Bharati has informed that High Power Transmitter (HPT) Gulbarga started as first TV station in Karnataka State and was commissioned on 3rd September, 1977 with transmission of one hour daily. Now, it is relaying about 20 hrs of Doordarshan Programmes daily including DD National, DD Chandana and local programmes from Doordarshan Kendra Gulbarga through DD transmitter and DD news programmes through DD News transmitter at Gulbarga.

24 hour multi-channel TV coverage has been provided through Doordarshan's free-to-air DTH service "DD Free Dish" signals of which can be received anywhere in the country with the help of small sized dish receive units. Modernization of Doordarshan for improvement of broadcasting system is a continuous process and schemes in this regard have been formulated and implemented from time to time. Modernization plan covers a broad spectrum, which, *inter-alia*, includes digitalization; adoption of new technologies at par with International standards; replacement of old ageing equipment and their upgradation etc.

Presently, for full digitalization of Studio Centre at Gulbarga, all major equipment except Camera chains has been procured and installed.