

AG Report No. 4 of 2003 (Civil) has pointed out that Doordarshan Kendra, Kolkata gave undue benefits in commercial terms to the sponsors of the programmes 'Aajke' and 'Mukho Mukhi' by not charging the rates as per the prescribed Rate Card.

The C and AG Para is under examination in consultation with Prasar Bharati.

Amount spent on advertisements

1592. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the details of the amount spent annually by various Ministries on advertisements during the last three years, Ministry-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Defaulting advertising agencies in Kolkata

1593. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the existing individual dues of ten top most defaulters of advertising agencies in Kolkata Doordarshan and AIR; and

(b) the number of reminders sent during the last six months to those agencies and the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Details of ten top most defaulters of advertising agencies in Kolkata Doordarshan and AIR, alongwith number of reminders sent to them is given in the Statement enclosed. (*See below*)