

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:398
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2000
TELECASTING PERMISSION TO PRIVATE COMPANIES
DUKHA BHAGAT

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the name of foreign companies which have been granted permission by Doordarshan to telecast their programmes in India at present;
- (b) the conditions on which the permission was granted to those companies to telecast in India;
- (c) the language-wise, details of those companies which are telecasting their programmes in Indian languages and whether they are telecasting their programmes in English also;
- (d) the details of transmission hours, channel-wise;
- (e) whether Government have decided to charge any royalty from those companies in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 398 FOR ANSWER ON 15.12.2000

(a): Prasar Bharati has intimated that they have entered into agreements with M/s Nine Network Australia Pty Ltd. and M/s British Broadcasting Corporation, London for telecast of their programmes on Metro Channel of Doordarshan.

Arrangements have also been worked out by Prasar Bharati with Star TV, ZeeTV, Sony Entertainment and UTV for programmes on Kashir channel.

Doordarshan has also entered into an agreement with CNN for one year for the period 3rd March, 2000 to 2nd April, 2001 for supply of news footage.

(b): Prasar Bharati has intimated that M/s Nine Network's programmes are being telecast on the conditions inter-alia, that :

(i) The programmes produced and submitted for telecast to Doordarshan should conform to the Broadcasting and Commercial Code of Doordarshan.

(ii) Programmes based on concepts approved by Doordarshan only will be telecast.

(iii) Doordarshan reserves the right to suspend the telecast of any particular programme. However, if a programme is dropped on more than five occasions during the course of one year, the company will be entitled to prorata rebate in case of all such programmes dropped. In case of Applicant's failure to come on air on any particular day, he will be liable to compensate Doordarshan for the losses thus incurred on the same basis as allowed to the Applicant i.e. prorata.

(iv) Only Doordarshan logo will be carried during the telecast of the programme. Producers caption will be telecast before and after the programme .

BBC has been allowed by Prasar Bharati to telecast their children's programme titled 'Teletubbies' with prescribed telecast fee of the

allotted time slot.

With a view to provide a bouquet of best programmes available in the country to the people of Kashmir valley due to the prevailing law and order situation, arrangements have been made for sharing of air time with M/s Star TV, Zee TV, Sony Entertainment and UTV , who are providing their best programmes on the Kashmir channel. The programmes are being provided by these private channels / production houses free of cost.

As per agreement with CNN, Doordarshan has been given rights to utilise : Live Breaking News - Up to 60 minutes per day for simultaneous rebroadcast, but not to exceed 30 minutes per day, if for subsequent replay. Excerpts- Up to 10 minutes per hour, but not to exceed 150 minutes per day in total. International Newsource- Four satellite-delivered news feeds per day, plus rundowns, scripts and support services. Aggregate- Use of materials covered by these rights shall not exceed 90 minutes per day in aggregate.

(c): M/s Nine Network Australia Pty. Ltd., Australia and the programmes of private channels on Kashmir channel are in Hindi only. BBC is telecasting their children's programme in English only. News feeds from CNN are in English.

(d): On DD-Metro, M/s Nine Network Pty. Ltd. Australia is telecasting original programmes for three hours between 7.00 PM to 10.00 PM with repeat for three hours next day from 9.00 AM to 12.00 Noon and BBC telecasts programmes for half an hour from Monday to Friday at 3.30 PM.

M/s Star TV, Zee TV, Sony Entertainment and UTV are providing 2 ½ hours of programmes from 7.30 PM to 10.00 PM on Kashmir channel. No specific period for telecast of CNN feeds has been agreed upon. The feeds are utilised by Doordarshan for their News as and when the same are required .

(e) & (f): Sourcing of these programmes is not on royalty basis. For time slot 7.00 PM to 9.00 PM the price offered by M/s Nine Network Australia Pty Ltd. as the highest bid was Rs. 59 Crores, net and for the 9.00 PM to 10.00 PM slot the price quoted was Rs. 62 Crores, net. The bid amount quoted relates to the contract period of one year.

BBC is telecasting their children's programme by paying the telecast fee of Rs. 7500/- per episode. The programme is for one year. M/s Star TV, Zee TV, Sony Entertainment and UTV are providing their programmes free of charge on Kashmir channels. Doordarshan has agreed to pay CNN US \$ 95,000 as licence fee, for CNN News, during the period of contract.