

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK. Sir, the Court has made 62 recommendations. We have accepted about 46 recommendations and 16 recommendations have not been accepted. These recommendations were not accepted, broadly for reasons of impracticality on technical and administrative grounds. So, we have already implemented 33 recommendations and 13 recommendations are under process.

SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI. My question is not yet replied. I have asked specifically about recommendation no. 29 and 39 which has been referred to Airbus Industrie.

MR SPEAKER. This is what happens when you bring too many questions in one question. You have to ask a pointed question.

SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI. No, Sir, I have asked a pointed question.

MR SPEAKER. Please do not argue like that.

SHRI M O H FAROOK. The recommendations which involve technical modifications by the Airbus Industrie or which involve long term measures are pending for implementation.

SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI. Is it a fact that a CBI team has gone to USA in connection with the kickback of about Rs 260 crores? If so, what is the progress?

SHRI M O H FAROOK. The purchase deal of A 320 aircraft is being investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation in a regular case registered on 29.3.1990 for offences of cheating, misconduct, bribery, corruption etc. Most of these investigations are to be conducted in India and they have been completed. Investigations are also to be conducted in UK, USA and Switzerland. These processes are going on and in 1991-92, the district court of Illinois and Washington State Government have executed letters of rogatory issued by the Indian court for

recording deposition of witnesses. Two CBI officers were present during that time in the court.

SHRI ANANTHA VENKATA REDDY. Is it a fact that the court in Chicago and US agencies have made some observations about the structural defects in A-320 aircraft? If so, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps he has taken regarding structural defects.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA). Mainly this matter is being dealt by the CBI which comes under the Home Ministry and the matter is under investigation. So, I will not be in a position to answer about every detail of this particular investigation. But certainly the process is under way.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV. The Minister's attention must have been drawn to the A-320 crash in France. The French government has set up an investigation committee and they have pointed out three major defects in A-320 aircraft. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether in view of those recommendations of the French committee, the Government is taking necessary steps to rectify those three major defects so that the crash may not be repeated in our country.

SHRI M O H FAROOK. It is true that on the follow up of the Starsbourg crash, there are some recommendations. The DGCA has advised the Indian Airlines to apprise their pilots in the operation of A 320 aircrafts to ensure probable crew coordination procedures. The second thing is that a general circular was issued on the aspect to all A-320 pilots for their information and guidance. Thirdly all examiners' instructions and check pilots of A 320 aircrafts are also advised to check their items during in route or proficiency checks.

Telecast of 'Ekta yatra'
* 166 KUMARI UMA BHARTI Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the details of the time given for coverage of 'Ekta Yatra' from Kanya Kumari to Srinagar by the All India Radio and Doordarshan;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints for inadequate coverage of the yatra;

(c) if so the details thereof; and

(d) the guidelines laid down for coverage of such events?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRLJA VYAS):

(a) Record of the details of the time devoted to various events by All India Radio and Doordarshan are not kept centrally in a compiled form.

(b) and (c). Some complaints have been received from members of Parliament and others alleging inadequate coverage of the yatra.

(d) While reporting such events, All India Radio and Doordarshan are guided by objectivity, fair play and news worthiness. No discrimination is made against any party or individual.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Mr. Speaker Sir, I am quite surprised by the reply to first part of my question as it is very ridiculous. The Information and Broadcasting Ministry has informed me that since details of the time devoted to various events are not kept centrally in a compiled form, it would not be possible for them to furnish the details. Do the Information and Broadcasting Ministry consider the Members of Parliament as fools so that they would be satisfied by such replies. Secondly, even if the records are available these would be lying in different almirahs. I raised the issue of coverage of month long 'Ekta Yatra' on the floor of the House and even then no records were kept

about its coverage on TV. So it is just like the proverb that a guilty conscience needs no accuser. Mr. Speaker Sir, my question has not been replied properly and I seek your protection for a proper reply. Taking pretences would not do. They say that records are not available. How will the records be available, when the event was not recorded at all. I would like to know the time allotted for its coverage... (*Interruptions*)... and it seems that hon. Members sitting on treasury benches do not even relish the word 'Ekta'. MY second question i.e. part (b) was in regard to complaints received from hon. MPs in this connection and the action taken on the complaints lodged with the hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting by the delegation of the Bhartiya Janata Party?... (*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: What all I have gathered from all this is whether a guilty conscience needs no accuser.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: When there is no conscience at all there is no need of any accuser.

KUMARI GIRLJA VYAS. Mr. Speaker, Sir, when there is no guilty conscience, the question of any accuser does not arise at all. The question of the hon. Member was quite a detailed one as the 'Ekta Yatra' passed through a long route from Kanya Kumari to Kashmir and also through a number of religious places. Therefore it was difficult to monitor and keep a track of the 'Ekta Yatra' at one place. Sir, through you, I would like to inform the hon. Member and the august House that this political Yatra was given due attention. Kumari Uma Bharti might have been busy in some other connection so she is not aware of the telecast broadcast of bulletins by Doordarshan and the AIR. I would like to inform the House that not only on 11th, but also prior to that on 5, 8, 9 and 10th news of this 'Ekta Yatra' has been telecast on the national network by the Doordarshan. On 11th three bulletins were telecast at 3.00 P.M., 8.40 P.M. and 9.30 P.M. Between 11th and 28th excerpts of this 'yatra' have been telecast for 32 times.

So far as AIR is concerned its coverage has been given in 36 bulletins over a period of 22 days. Total time allotted was 38.37 minutes and it was covered in 501.5 lines. Sir, through you, I would like to inform the hon. MPs of both sides, as I stated earlier, that in the matter of news especially political news and news relating to political activities, the basis of coverage is news-worthiness. Due coverage was given to events having news-worthiness in various bulletins broadcast by the AIR.

KUMARI UMA BHARTI Mr Speaker, Sir, as per reply given by the hon. Minister, it appears that the news was broadcast to some extent and a small photograph of Dr. Joshi was also displayed in one corner of the TV screen and a magnifying glass was required to see that photo properly. My second submission concerns with her statement regarding the news-worthiness and the guidelines issued to Doordarshan in respect of news telecast. As per those guidelines only those items are considered for telecast on Doordarshan which have news-worthiness, objectivity and fair play. I am unable to understand as to which said was being shown partiality. Ekta Yatra or Kashmir issue. Therefore the objectivity and the news-worthiness of Ekta Yatra. *(Interruptions)* he seems to be allergic to the word 'Ekta'. Does he not like the unity of the country?

I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that the Minister of Human Resource Development gave a memorandum to the hon. President that no mosque in the village of Madhya Pradesh was damaged and this was considered as a news-worthy item to be telecast. But the 'Ekta Yatra' which has been creating awareness among lakhs of people of the country and was organised for promotion of unity and integrity of the country was not at all considered as to be news-worthy. I would like to know. *(Interruptions)*

MR SPEAKER You please sit down first you sit down. I would like to tell you that if at all you want to get reply, then please be

brief. If you want to control them, please sit quietly.

(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER Umaji, the Members of your own party are not letting you ask the question. If you want to get reply, please ask your question clearly.

KUMARI UMA BHARTI Mr Speaker, Sir, my question is simpler than the question of several members of the House. They take about 15 minutes. Doordarshan adopts a biased attitude, at least you should not do the same with me. I would like to submit that it was a baseless news item which had no authenticity and all the newspapers refuted it.

MR SPEAKER If you do not come to the point, I would disallow the question.

KUMARI UMA BHARTI Mr Speaker, Sir, the news item which could spoil the communal harmony of the country was considered to be news-worthy to be telecast but 'Ekta Yatra' was not considered to be news-worthy therefore I would like to know. *(Interruptions)*

Look how these people are shouting. You people cannot hear anything. *(Interruptions)* their shoutings prove that they cannot see all these things. These things were totally baseless. *(Interruptions)* Mr Speaker, Sir, why don't you ask them to sit down. *(Interruptions)*

{English}

MR SPEAKER Please sit down, do not like that.

(Interruptions)

{Translator}

MR SPEAKER I do not know as to what extent Doordarshan propagated the 'Ekta Yatra' but it has been propagated here in this House. You please sit down.

(*Interruption*)

KUMARI UMA BHARTI Mr Speaker Sir I would like to know from the hon. Minister (*Interruptions*) I am asking in very brief (*Interruptions*) Mr Speaker, Sir, I am unable to ask my question (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER Pleased ask your question or sit down

KUMARI UMA BHARTI Mr Speaker, Sir I obey your order I want to ask my question in brief but at least I may kindly be given an opportunity to do so (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER You got enough time on T V Please ask your question also

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR SPEAKER Please come to the question now

[*Translation*]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI Please let me ask the question You do not let me ask the question I do not know as to which secret of yours is going to be revealable (*Interruptions*) I would just want to know as to what is the criteria of newsworthiness of an item to be telecast and why Ekta yatra was not considered to be a newsworthy item whereas Shri Arjun Singh's movement which could create communal tension was considered to be newsworthy

KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS Mr Speaker Sir no statement has been made about the Ekta Yatra being newsworthy or not I have categorically stated that whenever Ekta yatra was considered to be newsworthy it was subjective it was given coverage on Doordarshan several times

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA) Just to add to my colleague With due respect to the hon. lady Member, I would like to say that if Ekta Yatra has failed you cannot complain Doordarshan for that Sir, the Doordarshan is the whipping boy If anything has daunted, you blame Doordarshan all the time Doordarshan is only the whipping boys

SHRI A CHARLES This House is almost unanimous in giving autonomy to the Doordarshan The hon. Minister in answer to another question has said that the Government is in the process of giving autonomy to the Doordarshan (*Interruptions*)

Doordarshan is a very powerful media which, under normal circumstances, has to be used for impacting educating and for national integration of this great country

May I know from the hon. Minister that unnecessary coverage and projection shall not be given to any programme or incident or any other news item which in any way creates communal disharmony? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT PANJA The hon. Member's suggestion is well noted and we will comply with it

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR Mr Speaker, Sir as this question has been raised after the 40th day of end of the Ekta Yatra, I would like to ask a question regarding policy decision The question which has been raised regarding the coverage given to the Ekta Yatra, I would like to ask as to what is the criterion of that coverage We would like to ask from the Minister as to what are the norms which are adopted to give coverage to the political activities and the programmes of the different political parties and yatras conducted by them On the one hand, it is clear from his reply that the Ekta Yatra has been given ample publicity on the other hand, the Nyaya Yatra which is going on these days has not been given any publicity The Janata Dal leader Shri Ram Naresh Kushwaha is conducting an exposure programme and it has not been given any coverage We would like

to know as to what are the norms which you have fixed for coverage of the various political programmes?

KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS Mr Speaker, Sir, ours is a country of yatras. At times, political parties, undertake yatra for political reasons and at some time, other yatras are conducted. In this country of yatras every kind of yatra cannot be given coverage. However, for the information of the house, I would like to present the important points for the coverage of the various national political happenings before the House. Political activities are covered on the basis of their news value. News relating to all political parties are reported impartially and in the same bulletin different point of views are covered to give adequate and ample coverage to it.

SHRI RAM VILLAS PASWAN Do you think that Nyaya Jyoti does not have any importance which was stated from 6th December on the birth centenary day of Baba Saheb Ambedkar and is going to reach here on 14th of April.

KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS I am not refuting that.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN Because it is related to the Dalits the poor and the scheduled castes is that the reason that it does not have any importance? Why has it not been given any coverage? I have written a letter in connection with this to the hon'ble Minister. It has not been given any coverage although it started on 6th of December. Has the Nyaya Jyoti not got any importance from your point of view?

KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS Whenever any political Yatra will have news value, we will try to show such yatras but its newsworthiness is essential (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

Chasnala Mines

* 167 **SHRI PIUS TIRKEY** Will the

Minister of STEEL be pleased to state

(a) whether the mining work has recommenced in Chasnala mines of Bharat Coking Coal,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the details of the recommendations made by the experts from India, Germany and Poland following the Chasnala tragedy,

(d) the extent to which these recommendations have been implemented,

(e) whether a large number of labourers working therein are suffering from Pneumoconiosis, and

(f) if so, the arrangements made for their treatment?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) No, Sir. Mining operation in the Chasnala Deep Mine (of Indian Iron and Steel Company) are yet to recommence work only on recovery, rehabilitation and development of the mine is in progress.

(c) and (d) After the tragedy occurred in December, 1975 in the mine studies were conducted by Indian agencies and M/s MONTAN of Germany. No other foreign agency conducted any study. The recommendations made by the India agencies were

(i) To make arrangements for tapping of water from the old workings,

(ii) To survey the old workings, and

(iii) To appoint an expert foreign