

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTEY RAZI) : (a) and (b) There is no such proposal presently under the consideration of the Government.

Awareness About Protection of Rights

3951. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(A) the steps taken by the National Human Rights Commission to promote human rights literacy among various sections of the society and promote awareness of the safeguards available to them for the protection of their rights since the constitution of the Commission; and

(b) the amount earmarked for the purpose during the year 1995-96 and the amount actually spent upto October 31, 1995?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTEY RAZI) : (a) The National Human Rights Commission has taken following steps to spread human rights literacy and to promote awareness about the safeguards available for the protection of human rights :-

(i) The Chairperson of the Commission has addressed letters to Vice-Chancellors of various Universities and Deans of Law Faculties in March, 1994 urging them to examine how best the subject of human rights could be introduced at various stages of study at the university level;

(ii) The Commission is holding periodic meetings with Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resources Development, National Council for Educational Research and Training, University Grants Commission, National Open School and Indira Gandhi National Open University on the question of including human rights in the curriculum of educational institutions at various levels.

(iii) Seminars, workshops and conferences have been held in various States, Viz. Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam in collaboration with NHRC with which the Chairperson, Members and senior officials of the Commission have associated themselves.

(iv) The Commission is preparing a model training syllabus for all levels of the police forces in consultation with senior police officers of various States and Union Territories. The Commission has also been reviewing the efforts of Army in sensitising their personnel, from the level of Jawans to Commanding Officers, on human rights.

(v) The Commission has addressed letters to leaders of all political parties represented in Parliament or State legislature and suggested taking measures for promoting human rights and monitor the conduct of their cadres and

liaise with the Commission. Chief Ministers have also been requested to have public servants trained and sensitized on human rights.

(vi) The Commission is publishing a monthly Newsletter since October, 1994. The newsletter is widely circulated and is generally well received.

(vii) The Commission is making regular contacts with representatives of the media, including senior editors, correspondents and other personalities, especially the human right activists and NGOs engaged in the field of human rights and civil liberties.

(viii) The Commission and its Members, while visiting States, utilize the opportunity to spread the awareness of the safeguards available to various sections of society for the protection of their rights.

(b) Grants-in-aid is released to the Commission in instalments for meeting its entire expenditure. The Commission spends funds, to the extent necessary, out of its grants-in-aid for the purpose of promoting human rights literacy. No specific amount has been earmarked for the purpose of promoting human rights literacy. An amount of Rs. 3.64 lakh has been spent during the current financial year (1995-96) upto October, 1995, on account of Seminars, Conferences, publications (such as newsletter), audio-visual publicity and assistance to N.G.Os.

Popularity of Programmes of Doordarshan

3952. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state :

(a) with reference to Lok Sabha USQ No. 3081 dated August 24, 1995 regarding popularity of programmes of Doordarshan and mention of title of programmes/serials other than feature films which continues to receive in recent weeks the first five ranks or places among popularity ratings for programmes of different regional Kendra of Doordarshan;

(b) the details of the follow-up action being taken or proposed to be taken in the light of such rating; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to exchange such popular programmes/serials/items between different Kendras of Doordarshan by suitably dubbing them in the languages concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) The requisite details in respect of certain Kendras are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) These ratings assist the producer in obtaining commercial support for its programme and also provide Doordarshan one input, among many, in the matter of granting an extension or otherwise to the programme.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.