

**Suspension of certain Staff Artists**

7815. SHRI S. A. DORAL SEBASTIAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that some Sound Recordists and other Staff Artists of Directorate General, Doordarshan were suspended during the previous Government's regime and disciplinary proceedings were contemplated against them under the provision of C.C.S. (CCA) Rules but their cases are pending for more than three years;

(b) whether the Staff Artists are governed by CCS (CCA) Rules; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not treating them as Government Servants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Two disciplinary cases were instituted in 1978 during the previous Government's regime involving suspension of staff artists of Doordarshan. In one case a Producer was suspended for violation of instructions relating to telecast of programmes, while in the second case two sound recordists, one Floor Manager and one General Assistant of Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi were suspended for alleged drinking in office premises, etc. Action was taken in these cases under the terms of the contract entered into by them and not under the CCS (CCA) Rules. These cases have not yet been finalised, as time and again objections were raised by the staff artists involved regarding the legality of the procedure being followed against them. The suspension of all the staff artists in question was, however, revoked within four to five months.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

1887 LS-7.

**Programme to switch over to Colour Television**

7816. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government envisages a two phased programme for a partial switch-over to an era of colour television in the country; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the exchange of television programme with other countries can take place only if India's television programme are in colour; and

(c) if so, the time by when the coloured T.V. is expected to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (c). The feasibility of introduction of colour Television in India in a phased manner is under study. Its implementation will depend upon the approval of the scheme and availability of funds.

(b) It is possible to telecast programme received in colour from other countries in black and white in our country. Similarly, programmes sent from this country can also be telecast in other countries but these will be seen only in black and white on their colour T. V. sets. Since most of the T.V. organisations abroad have switched over to colour, programmes in black and white are not readily accepted.

**Construction work of Bridge on Drain No. 1, Delhi held up for last two years**

7817. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a large quantity of unused cement has been returned to different sites by contractor of Bridge on Drain No. 1 in Blocks 31, 32 & 33