

Companies Defaulting Payment

5856. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:
SHRI A.C. JOS:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Prasar Bharati Board has recently issued notices to certain companies for defaulting in making payment;

(b) if so, the names of the companies;

(c) the reasons for delay in getting payments;

(d) the measures taken by the Government to recover dues from the defaulting companies; and

(e) criteria adopted to take action against the erring companies?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The names of the Companies are as under:—

- (i) M/s ABCL
- (ii) M/s Drishti India Limited
- (iii) M/s Plus Channel
- (iv) M/s Multichannel

(c) The policy of accreditation and resultant credit facility occasionally results in non-payment of charges by the stipulated date.

(d) and (e) Prasar Bharati takes recourse to all contractual provisions, including encashment of bank guarantee and deaccreditation of errant agencies etc. To recover the outstanding dues. Recourse to arbitration proceedings and filing cases in the courts of law is also taken wherever warranted. Prasar Bharati has initiated legal action against major defaulting companies having outstanding dues of Rs. 3 Crores or more.

[Translation]

Air Station in Satna District, Madhya Pradesh

5857. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the A.I.R. Station at Mehar Sagar in Satna district of Madhya Pradesh is ready for commissioning; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) At present, there is no approved scheme for setting up of a Radio Station at Mehar Sagar in Satna district of Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

CRZ Rule in Functioning of Ports

5858. SHRI P. SANKARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government had brought to the notice of Union Government that the Central Regulation Zone Rule is giving problem even for erecting essential facilities to carry out functioning of ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the dredging an essential activity in port basin is not a permissible activity as per the said rule; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government to relax the said rule in case of Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Kerala have suggested certain modifications in Coastal Regulation Zone Notification dated 19th February, 1991, which, *inter alia*, include issues pertaining to ports and related activities.

(c) and (d) The Coastal Regulation Zone Notification dated 19th February, 1991 was amended *vide* S.O.No. 494(E) on 9th July, 1997, *inter alia*, permitting bundling for essential activities permissible under the Notification, control of coastal erosion, and maintenance or clearing of waterways, channels and ports.