

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3349
ANSWERED ON:05.02.2004
APPROVAL OF PROGRAMMES
BASUDEB ACHARIA

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

to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 415 dated December 4, 2003 and state:

(a) Whether the Government has received report of the High Powered Committee, constituted under Chairmanship of Shri M.L. Mehta to look into the alleged irregularities at Doordarshan Kendra, Kolkata; and

(b) If so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the recommendations of the Committee are given at Annexure. The action taken by Prasar Bharati on the recommendations of the Committee are as under:

(i) The court cases concerning M/s Rainbow Productions Ltd./Aarambh Advt. & Mktg Ltd. are now being dealt with by Sh. Rajeev Sharma, Senior Standing Counsel, Prasar Bharati, New Delhi in association with the Senior Standing Counsel, Kolkata.

(ii) An SLP was filed in Supreme Court on 12.11.2003 for vacation of the stay given by Kolkata High Court to M/s Aarambh Advt. & Mktg. Ltd. on 09.10.2002.

(iii) The petition for vacation of stay given to M/s Rainbow Production Ltd. regarding telecast of the programme 'Khas Khabar' by Kolkata High Court on 26.12.02/05.02.03 has been slated for hearing on 13.02.2004.

Action on the remaining recommendations is underway.