

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4348
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009
ASSISTANCE TO MEDIA PERSONS
Thomas Shri P. T.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide any assistance to the media persons injured while reporting;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for the welfare of media persons in the electronic and print media?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. JATUA)

(a) to (c): The Government of India provides one time ex-gratia relief of Rupees One Lakh under the scheme `Journalists Welfare Fund` to accredited journalists who suffer permanent disability rendering them incapable of discharging their duties due to unnatural causes and in the course of their duty. The Scheme is available at www.mib.nic.in.

(d) Apart from above, Press Information Bureau (PIB) accredited journalists are also provided with facilities like Government Accommodation; benefits of Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS); concession in Rail fare as well as exemption in customs duty for import of professional equipments.