GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5438 ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011 DAILY TELEGRAMS Ray Shri Bishnu Pada

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Press release given by a Member of Parliament was edited to shadow the main theme when published in the Government newspaper `The Daily Telegrams of A & N Islands`;
- (b) if so, whether the Daily Telegrams had a right to edit the said press release;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether in a function attended by both LG and M.P. only speech and photographs of LG and Administration Officers were published;
- (e) if so, the details of guidelines adopted in this regard alongwith the total expenditure for releasing one copy of Daily Telegrams; and
- (f) the reasons for not publishing the development activities and the problem of PRI Members in Daily Telegrams?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

- (a) to (c): No Madam, Andaman and Nicobar administration has intimated that important events are covered in accordance with their news value and public interest. Editing is part of this process but care is taken to avoid distortions in conveying news.
- (d) and (e): Andaman and Nicobar administration has intimated that the newspaper- "The Daily Telegrams of Andaman & Nicobar Islands" basically aims at disseminating information relating to various programmes and activities of the Government as well as news of public interest in a balanced manner.

It has further been intimated by the Andaman and Nicobar Administration that average expenditure on publication of 12000 copies of "The Daily Telegrams of A&N Islands" per day works out to Rs. 63,000/- and the revenue earning per day is Rs. 1,06,000/-. Accordingly, the net cost of releasing one copy of "The Daily Telegrams of A&N Islands" works out to be nil.

(f): Andaman and Nicobar Administration has intimated that all development activities and the problems of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) Members having news value are published in "The Daily Telegrams of A&N Islands".