

STANDING COMMITTEE ON
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(2004-2005)

FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(2004-2005)**

FOURTH REPORT

**Presented to Lok Sabha on 23.08.204
Laid in Rajya Sabha on 23.08.2004**

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

AUGUST, 2004/BHADRAPADA, 1926 (Saka)

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INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman Standing Committee on Information Technology (2004-2005) having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Fourth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2004-2005)' relating to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

2. The Standing Committee on Information Technology (2004-2005) was constituted on 5 August, 2004. One of the functions of the Standing Committees, as laid down in Rule 331 E of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, is to consider Demands for Grants of the concerned Ministry/Department and make a Report on the same to the House.

3. The Committee considered the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for the financial year 2004-2005 which were laid on the Table of the House on 15 July, 2004. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting on 11 August, 2004.

4. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 19 August 2004.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the representatives of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for appearing before the Committee and furnishing valuable information, that the Committee desired in connection with the examination of the Demands for Grants (2004-2005).

6. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in Part- II of the Report.

New Delhi
19 August, 2004
Bhadrapada, 1926 (Saka)

M.M. PALLAM RAJU,
CHAIRMAN,
STANDING COMMITTEE ON
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

COMPOSITION OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(2004-2005)

Shri M.M. Pallam Raju - CHAIRMAN

MEMBERS – LOK SABHA

2. Shri Nikhil Chaudhary, M.P
3. Shri Mani Cherenamei, M.P.
4. Shri Sanjay Dhotre, M.P.
5. Kunwar Jitin Prasad, M.P.
6. Shri Kailash Joshi, M.P.
7. Shri P. Karunakaran, M.P.
8. Dr. P.P. Koya, M.P.
9. Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab, M.P.
10. Shri Ajay Maken, M.P.
11. Smt. Nivedita S. Mane, M.P.
12. Smt. P. Jayaprada Nahata, M.P.
13. Col. G. Nizamuddin, M.P.
14. Shri Sohan Potai, M.P.
15. Shri Ashok Kumar Rawat, M.P.
16. Shri Chander Shekhar Sahu, M.P.
17. Shri Vishnu Sai, M.P.
18. Shri Tathagat Satpathy, M.P.
19. Shri K.V. Thangka Balu, M.P.
20. Shri P.C. Thomas, M.P.
21. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, M.P.

RAJYA SABHA

22. Shri Vijay J. Darda, M.P.
23. Shri Ashwani Kumar, M.P.
24. Dr. Akhilesh Das, M.P.
25. Shri Balbir K. Punj, M.P.
26. Shri Dara Singh, M.P.
27. Smt. Sarla Maheshwari, M.P.
28. Shri N.R. Govindraj, M.P.
29. Shri K. Rama Mohana Rao, M.P.
30. Shri Motiur Rahman, M.P.
31. Shri Sanjay Nirupam, M.P.

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|----------------------------|------|--------------------------|
| 1. Shri P.D.T. Achary | ---- | Additional Secretary (P) |
| 2. Shri S.K. Sharma | ---- | Joint Secretary (SK) |
| 3. Shri Raj Shekhar Sharma | ---- | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. Shri K.L. Arora | ---- | Under Secretary |
| 5. Shri D.R. Shekhar | ---- | Assistant Director |
| 6. Shri M.C. Suresh | ---- | Executive Officer |

PART- I
REPORT

Introductory

1. The main functions of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting are:-
 - to keep the people informed about Government's policies and programmes through the mass media;
 - to educate and motivate the people to greater participative involvement in the various developmental activities and programmes of the Government;
 - to liaise with State Governments and their organisations in the field of information and publicity; and
 - to serve as a constant link between the Government and Press and act as a clearing house of official information and authentic data pertaining to the Union Government's plans and programmes.

2. The Ministry is vested with the responsibility of formulating policy guidelines for the efficient dissemination of news and views by the media units. Although media units enjoy functional autonomy, the Ministry co-ordinates, assists, supervises and monitors the activities of the various units under its administrative control for efficient operations. The various media units use different programme formats keeping in view the needs of the target audience.

The Media Units and other Organisations of the Ministry are as follows:-

- (i) Prasar Bharati:-
 - (a) All India Radio; and
 - (b) Doordarshan
- (ii) Press Information Bureau
- (iii) Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP)
- (iv) Directorate of Field Publicity (DFP)
- (v) Publications Division
- (vi) Song and Drama Division
- (vii) Photo Division
- (viii) Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI)
- (ix) Research, Reference & Training Division
- (x) Films Division
- (xi) Nation Film Archive of India
- (xii) Directorate of Film Festivals
- (xiii) Central Board of Film Certification
- (xiv) Film Certification Appellate Tribunal
- (xv) The Public Sector Undertakings/Statutory Bodies/Autonomous Bodies functioning under the Ministry are as follows:-
 - (a) National Film Development Corporation (NDFC)
 - (b) Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited (BECIL)
 - (c) Press Council of India (PCI)

- (d) Children's Film Society, India (CFSI)
- (e) Film and Television Institute of India, Pune (FTII)
- (f) Indian Institute of Mass Communication
- (g) Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute, Kolkata; and
- (h) Central Monitoring Services

3. The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has presented to Parliament Demand No.60 which covers the expenditure of the Secretariat of the Ministry, its media units and also contains provisions for Grants-in-aid/Budgetary support to the autonomous/statutory bodies under the Administrative Control of the Ministry.

4. **Overall picture of Demands**

The overall picture of Demands in respect of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for the first three years of Tenth Plan is as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Proposed		Total	Approved		Total
	DBS	IEBR		DBS	IEBR	
2002-2003	734.98	430.24	1165.22	415.00	463.00	878.00
2003-2004	628.76	420.00	1048.76	415.00	475.00	890.00
2004-2005	523.92	475.00	998.92	480.00	475.00	955.00

The Tenth Plan outlay as approved by Planning Commission for Ministry of Information & Broadcasting is Rs. 5130 crore (Rs. 2380 crore - DBS + Rs. 2750 crore - IEBR).

5. **Budgetary Grants: Ministry of Information & Broadcasting**

2004-2005

Budget Estimates

(Rs. In crores)

Plan	Non-Plan	Total
955.00*	1034.21	1989.21

Out of Rs. 955 crores, DBS Component is Rs. 480 crores and the balance Rs. 475 crore being IEBR.

* includes IEBR generated by Prasar Bharti

6. The Plan outlay and the expenditure for 2003-2004 in various sectors was as under:-

Sector	Actuals	Outlay	Revised
	2002-2003	BE 2003-2004	Estimates 2003-2004
Doordarshan	501.80*	640.00*	449.80
All India Radio	172.85*	201.00*	163.36
Film Media	6.89	20.06	15.68
Information Media	<u>10.16</u>	<u>28.94</u>	<u>18.64</u>
	<u>631.63</u>	<u>878.00</u>	<u>808.54</u>

* includes IEBR generated by Prasar Bharati.

7. **Annual Plan 2004-2005:-**

The Demand for Grants for the year 2004-2005 in respect of broadcasting, film and information sectors include the following:-

(Rs. in crore)

Sector	DBS	IEBR	Non-Plan	Total Outlay 2004-2005
Prasar Bharati				
Doordarshan	293.10	350.00	447.00	1090.10
Sound Broadcasting	127.00	125.00	374.29	626.29
Films Media	24.70	---	39.47	64.17
Information Media	35.20	---	173.45	208.65
Total	480.00	475.00	1034.21	1989.21

8. Out of the outlay of Rs. 59.90 crores for the year 2004-2005 in respect of Information Media and Film Media Sectors, a provision of Rs. 2.35 crores has been earmarked for projects/schemes for the benefit of North Eastern Region and Sikkim.

9. Out of the total plan outlay of Rs. 895.10 crores for the year 2004-2005 in respect of Prasar Bharati i.e. the Broadcasting Sector, the Plan support will be Rs. 420.10 crores including a component of Rs. 22.65 crores for J&K Special Package and Rs. 96.13 crores for North Eastern Region and Sikkim. The remaining amount of Rs. 475 crore will be met by Prasar Bharati out of its own resources. The total plan outlay for 2003-2004 at RE stage was Rs. 613.16 crore having a DBS Plan support of Rs. 241.92 crore.

A. Broadcasting Sector

The Broadcasting Sector covers two components:-

- (i) All India Radio
- (ii) Doordarshan

(i) All India Radio

10. All India Radio informs educates and entertains people through its programmes broadcast from various stations. It keeps the people all over the country informed about Government policies, plans, programmes and achievements through the medium of sound broadcasting by a variety of programmes on culture, social and economic aspects. It also keeps the people in all parts of the country informed of the important events of topical interest. It also runs a commercial service (Vivid Bharati) which helps in promoting sale of goods and services through advertisements. It has external service programmes for overseas listeners.

11. The Demand for Grants for the financial year 2003-04 include the following:-

(Rs. in crore)

Media	SBG	RE	% increase/ decrease in RE over SBG
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All India Radio

Plan Revenue	36.00	36.00	Nil
Plan Capital	165.00	127.36	(-) 22.81
Plan Total	201.00	163.36	(-) 18.73
Non-Plan Revenue	505.48	505.37	(-) 0.02

Prasar Bharati

Plan Revenue	276.00	241.92	(-) 12.35
Plan Capital	565.00	371.26	(-) 34.29
Plan Total	841.00	613.18	(-) 27.09
Non Plan Revenue	896.10	915.99	(-) 2.22

12. **Revenue Plan:** The SBG 2003-2004 was Rs. 36 crores. The RE is fixed at Rs. 36 crores. This includes a sum of Rs. 1.00 crore towards North-East component and Rs. 2.50 crore towards J&K package.

13. **Capital Plan:** The SBG was Rs. 165 crores inclusive of Rs. 8.00 crores for the J&K Special package and Rs. 14.00 crores for NE component. The RE has been fixed at Rs. 127.36 crores (including Rs. 5.10 crores towards the J&K special package and Rs. 4.26 crores towards the NE component). The Capital (Plan) has been reduced by Rs. 37.64 crores due to less requirement of funds under J&K Special Package, North East allocation and less IEBR support by Prasar Bharati.

14. **Non-Plan Revenue:** The SBG 2003-2004 was Rs. 505.48 crores. The RE has been fixed at Rs. 505.37 crores. There is a marginal decrease of Rs. 0.11 crores.

Budget Estimates (2004-2005)

15. The Plan outlay for Prasar Bharati has been fixed at Rs. 895.10 crores. Out of this, Government will provide financial support in the form of Grant-in-aid and loan to the

tune of Rs. 420.10 crores only and the balance i.e. Rs. 475.00 crores will be met by Prasar Bharati.

<u>Revenue</u>	(Rs. in crores)
Normal	45.20
J&K Special Package	3.50
North East & Sikkim	3.30
Total Revenue	52.00
<u>Capital outlay</u>	
Normal	181.85
J&K special package	2.65
North East & Sikkim	15.50
Total Capital	200.00
Grand Total	252.00

Non Plan

16. Financial support to the Prasar Bharati under Revenue non-plan is in the form of Grant-in-aid. For the year 2004-05, the Grant-in-aid to AIR is proposed at Rs. 447.00 crores.

Financial Shortfall

17. During the year 2003-2004, approved budget outlay was Rs. 201 crores which was reduced to Rs. 163.36 crores at RE stage. But the actual expenditure during 2003-2004 was Rs. 120.27 crores resulting in a financial shortfall of Rs. 43.09 crores.

18. The Committee desired to know the reasons for shortfall in financial targets. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in their reply have stated that in respect of Modernisation Schemes shortfall of Rs. 1655.73 lakhs occurred as some of the equipments like Tape Recorders, Digital Consoles etc., could not be procured. In respect of replacement schemes, the Ministry have stated that due to delay in the supply of equipments, the expenditure could not be booked during the year 2003-2004 and hence, the shortfall of Rs. 1063.42 lakhs. With regard to New Schemes including North East Special Package, the Ministry have stated that the shortfall of Rs. 1857.71 lakhs was due to the fact that the proposals relating to construction of staff quarters at Metros for AIR and Doordarshan staff and approval of phase II of North East special package were under the consideration of the Government. The other reasons for shortfall were stated to be:-

- (i) Delay in obtaining Planning Commission's "In Principle approval".
- (ii) Reduction in budget grant because trend of the expenditure was not upto the mark.
- (iii) Non-commissioning of technically ready projects due to non-sanctioning of staff as well as non-filling of posts due to ban on recruitment. Proposals of staff are to be sent to Ministry of Finance (MoF) separately as per MoF's advice.
- (iv) Reduction in the cost of procurement of equipment because of downward trend of the prices due to global competition.

19. Physical Targets and achievements during 2003-2004:-

20. A glance at the above table indicates that out of 36 schemes targetted for completion during 2003-2004, 11 schemes have been carried forward to 2004-2005. There has been a delay in execution of 6 schemes due to problem in tenders. And in respect of 2 continuing schemes, according to the Ministry, shortfall have occurred due to delay in completion of 2 projects namely 200 KW Medium Wave Transmitter at Kargil (J&K special Package) and 200 KW Medium Wave transmitter at Najibabad. The project at Kargil has spilled over to 2004-2005 as the civil works in the technical area could not be completed due to shelling from across the border and early closure of roads. In the case of Najibabad, there was delay in placing order for the transmitter. Under upgradation/Expansion schemes, there was problem in procurement of 10 KW FM transmitters as a number of representations were received from the bidders during processing of tenders. Such problems do not come in all tenders.

21. The Committee desired to know the steps taken for optimum utilisation of funds.

In a written reply, the Ministry stated that:-

- a. Efforts are being made to get the approval of proposals for Phase II of North East Special Package and construction of staff quarters for AIR and Doordarshan staff at Metros expedited.
- b. Projects are being closely monitored both at the directorate level and the zonal offices.
- c. Periodical reviews are being carried out with the zonal officers to overcome difficulties, if any, by mutual consultation.
- d. Progress of projects are being reviewed in detail at the time of finalizing Revised Budget Estimates and Final Budget Estimates.

- e. Monitoring at the macro level has been strengthened by frequent visits to the project sites which has helped in identifying the problem areas and to find remedial measures.
- f. In addition, the progress of expenditure is also being monitored in the Ministry.

(ii) Doordarshan:-

22. The sanctioned budget outlay for Doordarshan for 2003-2004 was Rs. 640 crores, being reduced to Rs.449.82 crores at RE stage and the actual expenditure incurred during 2003-2004 was Rs. 373.62 crores resulting in a shortfall of Rs. 76.20 crores.

23. Asked about the reasons for underutilisation of funds allotted for the execution of various schemes, the Ministry in reply stated the reasons as follows:-

- (a) The sanctioned Budget under capital plan was reduced from Rs. 400 crores to Rs. 243.90 crores at Revised Estimate (RE) stage and it was further reduced to Rs.226.90 crores at Final Estimates (FE) stage primarily due to low trends of expenditure.
- (b) New schemes could not be taken up due to non-availability of “In-Principle” approval from Planning Commission under the schemes of upgradation/expansion of Transmitters, Replacement Schemes and New Schemes of 10th Plan.
- (c) The North East Special Package Phase-II for Rs. 334.41 crores was not approved during the financial year 2003-04 and provisions of Rs. 26.35 crores was available for the scheme in Annual Plan 2003-04, which could not be utilised. The Scheme has now been appraised by the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) on 30.07.2004.
- (d) Schemes for construction of New Staff Quarters and other infrastructure facility for Rs.160 crores for All India Radio and Doordarshan (Doordarshan-120 crores) was not approved in financial year 2003-04 for which a provision of Rs.9.75 crores was kept in the Annual Plan 2003-04, which could not be utilised. The Scheme was appraised by Expenditure Finance Committee on 13.02.2004 and is yet to be approved by the competent authority.

- (e) As regards Plan Revenue, despite projection of RE at par with the SBG, the allotment under North-East schemes was reduced from Rs. 39.81 crore to Rs. 27.58 crore at RE stage in view of the trends of expenditure. Likewise under J&K Special Plan, the allocation at RE stage was reduced from Rs. 49.71 crore to Rs. 38.30 crore in view of the trends of expenditure. Expenditure of only Rs. 41.49 crore could be incurred under the head “Software acquisition/Production” against an SBG of Rs. 90 crore due to non-availability of adequate amount of IEBR.

24. About the steps taken to ensure optimum utilisation of funds, the Ministry in their reply have stated that the following actions are taken:-

- (i) Detailed specifications of equipment are prepared and kept ready before the approval of scheme.
- (ii) System design is carried out before the approval of scheme.
- (iii) Detailed project engineering is done and drawings are prepared before the project is approved.
- (iv) Necessary details of tenders are worked out before the project is approved.
- (v) Application for necessary clearance from SACFA (Standing Advisory Committee on Frequency Allocation) are filed before the project is approved.
- (vi) All out efforts are made to ensure expeditious approval of schemes “In principle” by the Planning Commission and by SFC/EFC.
- (vii) Constant monitoring is done to ensure timely supply of equipment and construction of building etc.

(iii) J&K Special Plan

25. The Committee desired to know the activities of Prasar Bharati in J&K Special plan. The Ministry in reply, have furnished the activities of Prasar Bharati in J&K Special Plan as follows:-

Doordarshan – A special plan for expansion and improvement of Doordarshan services in J&K was approved by the Government in later half of 1999. Hardware component of the Plan involving an outlay of Rs. 234.44 crores envisaged establishment of 112 projects, all of which have been set up. These 112 projects include 10 transmitters (at 5 locations) in interim set up. Additional schemes of replacement of DDI HPT (10 KW) at Srinagar by a new transmitter; upgradation of kashir channel HPT (1 KW to 10 KW) have been sanctioned during 2003-2004. These projects are expected to be commissioned by end of 2004-2005.

Software component of J&K Plan involved an outlay of Rs. 145.23 crore. The funds were utilised for commissioning, production and acquisition of programmes for Kashir Channel and included programmes or CPG themes.

All India Radio (AIR)

12 Projects were included in the special package approved by the government for improvement of radio coverage in Jammu & Kashmir.

Six projects have already been commissioned at Kathua – 10 KW FM Tr., Srinagar 300 KW MW Tr., Kupwara – 20KW MW Tr. Naushera – 20 KW MW Tr., Rajouri – 10 KW FM Tr., and Khalsi – 1 KW MW Tr.

Five technically ready projects with 1 KW MW Transmitters at Diskit, Drass, Nyoma, Radum and Tiesuru are awaiting commissioning for want of operational and maintenance of staff as the Government's approval for continuance of sanctioned posts beyond February, 2004 is awaited.

The remaining project namely, the 200 KW MW Tr., Project at Kargil is in progress and would be completed in the current financial year 2004-2005.

The Committee then desired to know the initiatives proposed to be taken to overcome the constraints to streamline the execution of schemes. In a written note submitted to the Committee, the Ministry have stated as follows:-

There is no specific constraint in the implementation of schemes of J&K Special Plan.

26. When asked about the plan allocation and utilisation alongwith the physical targets fixed and achievements made during 2003-2004 for development of J&K Special Plan, the Ministry has submitted the following reply:-

Doordarshan – during 2003-2004, an amount of Rs. 8.40 crores was allocated for J&K plan under capital and the expenditure incurred was Rs. 5.05 crores.

Physical targets vis-à-vis achievements during 2003-2004 are as under:-

Target	Achievement
HPTs DD1 & 2 New – 1	1
HPTs DD1 & 2 pmt – 4	1
Studio - 1	1

Under plan revenue, allocation of Rs. 49.71 crore was made for J&K Special Plan which was subsequently reduced to Rs. 38.27 crore at RE stage. An expenditure of Rs. 39.20 crore was made against the allotment. Liabilities of more than Rs. 10 crore had to

be carried forward to 2004-05. A target of production/acquisition of 2645 episodes was fixed against which physical achievement was of 2460 episodes.

AIR – Rs. 10.50 crore was provided during 2003-04 for J&K Special Plan out of which Rs. 4.69 crore was incurred.

Under the J&K Special Plan only one project namely the Kargil 200 KW 14 W Tr. Project remains to be implemented as rest of the 11 projects have already been completed. This project was targeted for completion during 2003-04 has spilled over to 2004-05 due to delay in completion of civil work in the technical area caused by shelling from across the border and early closure of roads. Installation work is now in progress and is expected to be completed during the current financial year 2004-05 as scheduled.

27. When asked about the reasons for shortfall in achievement of physical targets, the Ministry has indicated the reasons as follows:-

(b) Doordarshan :- Main difficulties in implementation of projects in J&K are as under:-

- (a) Due to difficult climatic conditions practically no work can be carried out during Oct-Feb. in parts of Kashmir region especially Gurez and Tithwal.
- (b) Problems faced in deployment of manpower by contractors because of insurgent conditions.
- (c) Security problem.
- (d) Lack of availability of skilled work force.

All projects in J&K have been implemented except construction of towers at 5 locations. Orders with the earlier firms (for 4 towers at Samba, Kupwara, Gurez and Tithwal) have been cancelled and fresh orders placed. Order for one tower (Amritsar) is to be placed. Tenders for this have been received and are under process.

Assistance of army is required in operation of some transmitters viz. HPTs Gurez, Tithwal, Kupwara and a few LPTs. The matter has been taken up with the concerned army authorities.

(iv) North East Special Package

28. All India Radio coverage in the NE region is 93.75% by population and 73.61% by the area. Doordarshan is presently providing coverage to 82.40% of the population and 54.90% of area in the region. After implementation of NE Special Package (Phase II) Doordarshan coverage is expected to go up to 94.81% by population and 75.90% by area and quality of signals in the coverage zone will improve significantly. AIR coverage will also be maximised giving coverage to additional areas. The Committee desired to know the plan allocation and utilisation of funds for development of North Eastern Region during 2003-04. The Ministry in their reply have stated that in respect of Doordarshan during 2003-04, an amount of Rs. 35.00 crores was allotted for NE special package under capital and the expenditure incurred was Rs. 4.81 crores. Shortfall is due to non-approval of NE Special Package, Phase II.

On the revenue side, though Expenditure Finance Commission (EFC) for NE Special Package is yet to be approved, during the year 2003-04 an allotment of Rs. 39.80 crore was made which was reduced to Rs. 27.58 crore at RE stage. An expenditure of Rs. 27.29 crore was incurred and funds were utilised for commissioning and production of programme software for various North East Stations. A target of production/acquisition of 1600 episodes of programmes was fixed which was achieved. However, liabilities to the extent of Rs. 12 crore remain to be cleared.

In respect of AIR, the following are the salient features of the special package for boosting radio coverage in the North Eastern region:-

- Expansion of FM coverage
- Replacement of old MW Transmitters by new MW transmitters.
- Upgradation of studios to stereo.
- Digital Earth Stations and Digital News Gathering.
- Digital Portable Recorders and Digital connectivity for news units.

Rs. 16.00 crores was allocated for schemes under the special package during 2003-04 and expenditure incurred was Rs. 3.66 crores. Shortfall has resulted as phase II of the special package is still awaiting approval. However, the Expenditure Finance Commission (EFC) meeting has been held on 30.7.2004.

29. When asked about the physical targets and achievements along with the progress in this regard, the Ministry submitted the reply as under:-

“So far as Doordarshan is concerned, Phase I package for development/improvement of Doordarshan service in North Eastern Region was

approved by the EFC in January, 2002. The schemes approved and their present status is indicated in the statement given below:-

(Rs.in crores)				
Sl.No.	Scheme	Approved Cost	Expenditure till June'04	States
1.	Upgradation of 5 HPTs at Shillong, Imphal, Aizawl, Kohima and Itanagar (1KW to 10KW)	21.70	12.99	All the five transmitters (10 KW) commissioned in March/April 2004.
2.	Earth Stations at Shillong and Aizawl	15.32	9.42	Both the Earth Stations commissioned in April, 2004
3.	Cable Headends (160 Nos.)	7.15	7.12	Order placed with M/s. BECIL. 133 Cable Head ends commissioned. There is difficulty in implementation of projects in the States of Tripura and Manipur due to insurgency.

4.	Satellite Videophones	1.65	1.81	Satellite Videophones procured and in use.
		45.82	31.34	

”

As regards AIR, following six projects were approved under Phase I of the special package and were targetted for completion during 2003-04. These projects have since been achieved except at Kohima where an interim set up has come up. Installation work of permanent set up is also in progress.

FM Transmitters at Itanagar, Kohima and Port Blair; and Upgradation of uplink facilities to digital system at Guwahati, Itanagar and Kohima.

30. With regard to the steps taken to ensure maximum utilisation of funds allocated for the developmental schemes of the North Eastern Region, the Ministry have stated through their written reply that as regards Doordarshan, Preliminary action viz., preparation of specifications, design work etc. have been carried out to ensure that the purchase process can be initiated immediately after the schemes are sanctioned. Site surveys have been conducted and some sites have been tentatively identified. On the part of AIR also, all efforts are being made to get the approval of EFC/CCEA for phase II of the special North East package.

(v) **Prasar Bharati**

31. The Committee desired to know whether the composition of the Prasar Bharati Board had been completed and asked for the details thereof. In reply, the Ministry of

Information & Broadcasting have furnished the present composition of the Prasar Bharati Board as under:-

1. Chairman
2. Six Part-Time Members
3. Executive Members
4. Member (Personnel)
5. Member (Finance)
6. Two Ex-officio Members.
7. One Representative of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
8. Two representatives of employees of Prasar Bharati

32. Two posts in respect of Part time Members are vacant as the recommendations of the Selection Committee headed by the Vice-President of India in respect of two Part time Members are yet to be received. Besides, there are two vacancies pertaining to the representatives of the employees. Since all the employees of erstwhile AIR and DD continue to be Government servants, the election of the representatives cannot be held, till their services are transferred to Prasar Bharati, in accordance with the provisions of Prasar Bharati Act.

33. To a query on the optimum utilisation of Infrastructure and Manpower by Prasar Bharati, the Ministry have stated in their reply as follows:-

“All India Radio

In order to ensure the optimum utilisation of infrastructure and manpower, the exercise of redeployment of staff has already been carried out to the extent possible and 26 new projects were commissioned by redeployment. However, even after redeployment, a number of existing stations are finding it difficult to man the infrastructure due to acute shortage of staff. There are still 15 technically ready projects which are awaiting commissioning for want of operational and maintenance staff. The requirement of staff is as under:

“ALL INDIA RADIO

Over all requirement/shortage of staff of All India Radio is as under:

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Sanctioned Strength</i>	<i>Additional requirement as per Staff Inspection Unit Norms (SIU)</i>
Engg.	6,068	2,648
Prog.	6,322	848
Admn.	10,893	627
News*	523	325
Total	23,806	4,448

* *Only operational staff*

34. The representative of the Ministry during evidence further stated that the Economic Review Commission (ERC) had proposed abolition of 5,724 post where, as in AIR additional requirement, as per Staff Inspection Unit (SIU) norms was 4,448. It was also been added that the direct recruitment had been stopped in the Cadre of Engineering, Programme and news since 1998, 1991 and 1999 respectively and in respect of post of Engineering Assistant since 2001.

Doordarshan

There are, at present, 59 studio centers and 1403 transmitters in Doordarshan network. Break up of the transmitters is as under:-

HPTs	:	190
LPTs	:	832
VLPTs	:	381

The average duration of transmission from the aforesaid transmitters is about 19 to 20 hours per day. 49 LPTs out of the above mentioned 832 LPTs are relaying partial transmission because of non-availability of adequate staff.

Out of the above mentioned stations, 15 studios and 147 transmitters have been commissioned without any staff sanction. In addition, 216 transmitters have been commissioned with partial staff sanction. These stations have been operationalised by way of re-deployment of staff from other stations in the network. Break up details of the stations commissioned without staff sanction and with partial staff sanction is given below:

Projects commissioned without staff sanction

Studios	:	15
HPTs	:	30
LPTs	:	117

Project commissioned with partial staff sanction

HPTs	:	32
LPTs	:	184

7 studios and 11 LPTs are presently technically ready. Staff for their operation and maintenance has not been sanctioned. Three projects can be commissioned after the requisite staff is sanctioned and deployed.

In Engineering cadres, 1706 posts out of the sanctioned posts are currently vacant in addition there is a requirement of 263 posts in Engineering cadres, as per SIU norms.

Due to non-availability of adequate staff, 15 studios centres, which were commissioned without staff sanction are being utilised only to a limited extent”.

35. The requirement and shortage of staff of the Doordarshan is as under:

Requirement of Staff
(SIU Study 2002)

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Sanctioned*</i>	<i>As per SIU</i>	<i>Net req.</i>
Engineering	9,668	12,299	2,631
Programme	3,465	5,061	1,596
Administration	6,894	7,090	196
News	130	189	59
Total	20,157	24,639	4,482

* *Data for areas where study was completed*

36. As regard the Overall Staff Shortage, the Ministry during the evidence furnished the information as under:-

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Vacancy</i>	<i>Add. Req. as per SIU norms</i>	<i>Net req.</i>
Engineering	1,687	2,631	4,318
Programme	440	196	636
Administration	110	1,596	1,706
News	53	59	112
Total	2,290	4,482	6,772

* *Data for areas where study was completed*

37. The Ministry during evidence also stated that in Doordarshan Commissioned 33 DMCs, 29 HPTs and 184 LPTs projects were functioning with partial staff sanction of 246. Further, 15 Studios, 27 HPTs, 113 LPTs have been facing shortage of 155 staff without sanction. 24 projects (6 Studio, 3 HPTs and 15 LPTs) of Doordarshan were ready but could not be commissioned for want of staff sanction.

38. When asked by the Committee regarding overall effect on Prasar Bharati on account of shortage of staff, the representatives of the Ministry stated that so many projects which were technically ready, could not be commissioned so far and unless shortage of staff was overcome. They further added that it was extremely difficult to produce and telecast qualitative programmes and to maintain efficiency of the staff. Further due to overload experienced and some qualitative trained persons had migrated from Prasar Bharati to Private channels/FM.

(vi) Outstanding dues:-

39. The Committee wanted to know the quantum of outstanding dues from the producers at various Regional Kendras and National Channels for their sponsored programmes/serials during the last two years viz., 2002-03 and 2003-04. The Ministry, in written reply, have submitted that the outstanding dues for National Channel programmes for 2002-03 were Rs. 36.01 crores and for 2003-04 were Rs. 56.73 crores thus amounting to total outstanding dues of Rs. 92.74 crores. The list of defaulters during the 2002-03 and 2003-04 (Principal amount) on National Channels is placed at Annexure I.

40. To a specific query on outstanding dues Regional Kendras wise, the Ministry has submitted that the following Regional Kendras had the highest outstanding dues for the last two years:-

		(Rs. in crores)
Kolkata	:	32.76
Chennai	:	5.83
Trivandrum	:	5.07
Bangalore	:	4.44
Mumbai	:	3.34
Hyderabad	:	1.58
Lucknow	:	1.39
Jullandhar	:	1.19

The list of regional kendras which had outstanding dues for 2002-03 and 2003-04 is placed at Annexure II.

41. Regarding the steps taken by Doordarshan for speedy recovery of dues from the defaulters, the Ministry have in their reply, furnished the steps taken by Doordarshan as follows:

- “(a) Accreditation rules have been made very stringent and the limit of bank guarantee has been raised from Rs. 3 lacs to Rs. 25 lacs. In addition, producers of sponsored programmes are required to submit in advance Bank Guarantees for 8 weeks of telecast (earlier provision was for 6 weeks). In the case of high value events, 100% Bank Guarantee of the minimum assured revenue is taken.

- (b) Though Bank Guarantee mentioned above are capable of protecting our current financial interest to a large measure still constant monitoring is done and watch is kept on payment position of existing producers whose programmes are running on DD. Soon after their credit period expires, reminders and notices are served upon them for payment of dues.
- (c) If they do not respond to our reminders on notices, they are immediately put on advance payment so as to ensure that their dues don't mount further.
- (d) The producers are then asked to submit a payment plan for clearing their outstanding dues.
- (e) As a practical measure, telecast of programmes of such producers are not stopped because chances of recovery are much better if the programme is on air. As already explained above, better strategy has been found to be put defaulting producers on advance payment and ask for a payment plan.
- (f) Whenever producers seek extension, among other factors, it is also taken into account whether the concerned producers are adhering to their payment plan or not.

42. To a query regarding the desired results that have yielded due to the steps taken by Doordarshan, the Ministry have enumerated that because of the above mentioned steps taken by the Doordarshan, the extent of default during current financial year has come down significantly.

43. With regard to the measures taken to recover the dues from the defaulters whose programmes are not aired, the Ministry has mentioned the following measures:-

- (a) The accreditation status of defaulters has been cancelled.
- (b) Clearance of outstanding dues is a pre-condition in case such producers desired to come on air again.
- (c) Legal notices have been issued and arbitration clause, as per agreement, has been involved in large number of cases. In many cases, arbitration proceedings have already begun.

B. Strengthening the Content Regulatory Mechanism

44. Electronic Media is a public broadcaster which has played a significant and effective role in free flow of information, catering to the need of education and entertainment of all sectors of society, striking a balance between public interest and financial requirements of the Telecasting agency in its delivery of service.

Doordarshan was a monopoly broadcaster till 1991. It had no competitor and whole of the advertisement revenues of television reached to it. After 1991 with the advent of satellite channels like CNN, Star TV, Sony TV and Zee TV etc., Cable Network started extending all over the country. This resulted in a competition between Doordarshan and satellite channels and advertisement revenue. This step was bound to have a negative impact on the quality and content of the Satellite channels. The quality of programmes depend on certain specific aspects like quality of production and transmission equipments and facilities, nature of contents, availability of creative talents, adequate training and financial resources.

45. When asked by the Committee that what steps had been taken to regulate and prohibit transmission of certain programmes, which are against the public interest, public order, decency or morality, the representatives of the Ministry during evidence stated that as per relevant clause of the Cable Television Network (Regulatory) Act 1995, Distt. Magistrate, Sub-divisional Magistrate or Commissioner Police and including any other officer notified in the official Gazette, by the Central Government or by the State

Government, think it necessary or expedient so to do in public interest, including public order, decency or morality etc. he may, by order, prohibit any Cable operator from Transmitting any programme or channel if, it is not in conformity with the prescribed programme code referred to in Section 5 and advertisement code in Section 6 etc. The representative of the Ministry further added that these arrangements have not been effective enough and expected that legislation that would come would perhaps address these needs of the society as well. The representative also expressed that the Communications Convergence Bill which had proposed some regulatory mechanism on regulating the quality and content of the programmes broadcast had lapsed. And it has become imperative to introduce an effective regulatory mechanism thereon in view of the surrogate advertisements being broadcast by the Private Channels. The Ministry further expressed their disability to control this because there is no regulatory mechanism.

The representative of the Ministry further added that implementation of this act in this context, had been found hardly fruitful, because these authorities were extremely busy and had hardly time to concentrate on these issues. The Ministry therefore, requested that Prasar Bharati should be empowered in the Act to prohibit, regulate and check on quality and indecent content being telecast by satellite channels or Cable operators.

C. Media Units

Information Sector

(i) Press Information Bureau

46. The Press Information Bureau is the Central Agency of the Government of India for informing the people about its policies, programmes and activities. As Government's main channel of communication with the Media (Electronic and Print), Press Information Bureau puts out information on Government policies, programmes, activities and achievements, provides feedback from the press and advises the Government on its information policy.

47. The following budgetary allocations have been made by the Ministry to Press Information Bureau during 2003-2004 and 2004-2005:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No	Schemes	Approved Outlay	Actual Expenditure
		2003-2004	2003-2004
1.	Setting up of the National Press Centre at New Delhi	200.40	6.05
2.	Modernisation and computerisation activities of PIB		
	(i) Digital Storage and High Speed Communication	98.20	65.20
	(ii) Setting up of Soochna Kendras and providing connectivity	115.40	67.85

3.	Opening of Branch Offices of PIB in State Capitals where they don't exist	70.00	10.60
4.	Construction of building for PIB offices in the North East and where land has been allotted by the Government	25.00	-
5.	Press Tours for NE, J&K and Tribal Areas	2.00	0.72
		511.00	150.44

48. Out of total plan outlay of Rs. 511.00 lakhs for the year 2003-2004, an expenditure of Rs. 150.44 lakhs only could be utilised by the Bureau.

49. The Committee desired to know the reasons for shortfall in utilisation of budgetary allocations by the Press Information Bureau. The Ministry in their reply have stated that major shortfall in utilisation was in respect of the scheme "setting up of National Press Centre at New Delhi" (NPC) where an expenditure of Rs. 6.05 lakhs only was incurred against an approved outlay of Rs. 200.40 lakhs.

50. Replying to a query on the reasons for delay in construction of the building the Ministry have stated that the actual possession of land proposed for construction of the centre was handed over to PIB on 16th October, 2002. And the main reason for delay was that the proposed NPC which is to match international standards and have state of the art

technologies, require considerable assessment and planning before finalising the concept, design, technology and space requirements. In addition, construction of NPC also required approval of various agencies viz., EFC/Planning Commission/local bodies/NDMC etc. Further, the issue regarding selection of consultant/architect/executing agencies, inclusion of Museum on Print Media, preliminary design report, cost abstract had been under consideration in the Ministry. In February 2004, preliminary planning and design of the project was finalised and EFC memo for the project was circulated to Appraising Agencies viz., the Planning Commission, Department of Expenditure (Plan Finance – II Division) etc. The Appraising Agencies have raised some queries. The revised EFC Memo would be circulated soon.

51. With regard to shortfall in utilisation of funds under the scheme “Modernisation and computerisation of the activities of PIB” the Ministry have stated in their reply that all equipments proposed to be purchased during the year were procured under Capital, but there was some shortfall under Revenue as SFC approval for the Scheme could be accorded only on 13.2.2004 and funds earmarked for connectivity and purchase of consumables etc., could not be utilised. As regards other schemes viz., opening of Branches offices of PIB in the State Capitals where they don’t exist, construction of building for PIB offices in the North-East and where the land has been allotted by the Govt. and Press tours for NE, J&K and tribal areas, the Ministry has stated that very little could be done as the Planning Commission had not accorded “in principle” approval to these schemes and the same had to be dropped/deferred resulting in non-utilisation of major portions of the approved outlays for these schemes.

52. During the course of evidence the representative of the Ministry admitted that the project was slow in getting off but exuded optimism that there would be no further delay in the project and it would be commissioned in time.

(ii) Indian Institute of Mass Communication

53. The Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) was set up in response to a need felt to evolve a methodology and mechanism to make efficient and effective use of communication resources as part of country's overall development strategy.

54. The total amount of budgetary outlay for IIMC during 2003-2004 was Rs. 360.00 crores, however, the Institute could utilise only Rs. 158.91 crores during the same period.

55. The Committee desired to know the reasons for shortfall in utilisation of budgetary allocations during 2003-2004. The Ministry have stated in their written reply that the progress of the scheme 'Building and Housing Project' at New Delhi was affected as certain institutional parameters of IIMC's agreement with JNU have raised some concerns, which are being addressed. The structural drawings of the buildings required revision due to which the construction work has been delayed.

56. Administrative approval for implementing two schemes could be obtained after working out the modalities during 2003 and implementation of most of the programmes of these schemes were started thereafter. The programme of the scheme 'collaboration

with Regional Centres of Learning' can be implemented by the Institute only after reaching an agreement through due consultation and signing a MOU with concerned centres/universities. The collaboration with Utkal University could not be formalised as Utkal University backed out from the proposal.

57. On the efforts taken by the Ministry to utilise the budgetary allocations for execution of various schemes envisaged during the year, the Ministry have submitted that on the instance of Planning Commission a Mid-Term Review of the Plan Schemes of IIMC was done. On the basis of its findings, IIMC has been asked to undertake an immediate review of the physical and financial achievements vis-à-vis targets in respect of all schemes and take steps to ensure full achievement of 10th Plan targets under each scheme. The Institute has already sought clearance from JNU for construction of staff quarters. MOU with Nagaland University has already been approved by the Ministry and it is likely to be signed shortly. Matter relating to collaboration with an Institute in Patna is being pursued with the Government of Bihar. Action for procurement of latest equipment during 2004-05 has been initiated.

(iii) Training for Human Resource Development

58. The 10th Plan proposal of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting includes a new scheme "Training for Human Resource Development" having two sub-schemes (i) "Training for Human Resource Development in institutions located abroad" at an allocation of Rs. 200 lakhs operated by the Main Secretariat and (ii) "In-service training of IIS officers" operated by RR & TD at an allocation of Rs. 50 lakhs.

59. Out of Rs. 200 lakhs provided under the sub scheme “Training for HRD in Institutions located abroad” the Ministry has utilised Rs. 6.58 lakhs only during the year 2003-2004.

60. The Committee desired to know the reasons for gross underutilisation of funds allotted during 2003-2004. The Ministry in their written reply have stated that “In-principle” approval of the scheme was given by the Planning Commission only on 24.06.2003. Thereafter the scheme was examined in detail by the Integrated Finance and the scheme was formally approved by Secretary (I&B) on 24.10.2003. Since this is a scheme with no precedent, identification/finalisation of various institutes/universities and the training courses conducted by them and matching them with the training needs of officers of this Ministry took time. Consequently, only one officer could be nominated by his Ministry during 2003-2004 for ‘International Print Journalism’ course to be conducted by the Thomson Foundation, U.K. during June-September, 2004.

61. When asked to elaborate about the constraints faced by them in this regard, the Ministry have stated in a written reply that it cannot on its own formulate training programme for the whole year and it has to go by the training/academic calendar of various institutes conducting courses which suit the Ministry’s requirement. Further, it has been added that the Ministry could not finalise the training courses in advance due to the changes in the academic calendar every year of the Institutes conducting media related courses. And the training programmes are required to be finalised on a yearly basis after the training calendars of the concerned training institutes are finalised.

Film Sector

(i) National Film Archives of India

62. National Film Archives of India was set up in 1964 at Pune with the objective to trace, acquire and preserve for the use of posterity the heritage of national cinema and a representative collection of world cinema, classify and document data relating to films and to undertake and encourage research on cinema and publish and distribute them, to act as a centre for the dissemination of film culture.

63. The approved outlay and actual expenditure incurred in respect of the schemes during 2003-2004 are as follows:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Approved outlay 2003-2004	Actual Expenditure upto March, 2004	Approved outlay for 2004-2005
Continuing Scheme				
1.	Acquisition and exhibition of archive films	72	72.00	72.00
New Scheme				
1	Construction of Phase II – Building for NFAI complex	50.00	---	250.00
		122.00	72.00	322.00

64. The Committee desired to know the reasons for shortfall in utilisation of funds earmarked for construction of phase II – Building for NFAI complex. The Ministry in written reply have stated that the Planning Commission after an in-depth study decided to

merge certain schemes of the Film Wing which had similar objectives/components and thereafter in principle approval for the new schemes was received in the month of March, 2003. A Committee was constituted to look into the design aspect considering the special requirements of NFAI and the long-term requirements also. The report of the Committee was examined alongwith the comments of Director, NFAI and three architects of CCW were examined and the best design suitable for NFAI was selected. The formalities for transferring the land from FTII, Pune to NFAI were overcome. After detailed examination of the entire proposal by the Finance Wing taking into consideration the detailed break up of expenditure involved the SFC meeting was convened on 18.3.2004.

(ii) Film Division

65. The Film Division is responsible for the production and distribution of documentaries, animation and short films required by the Government of India for public information, education, motivation and for instructional and cultural purposes.

66. A perusal of budgetary documents furnished by the Ministry reveals the following details regarding budgetary allocations and actual expenditure in respect of various schemes of Films Division:-

Name of the Scheme	BE	Actual Expenditure upto 31.03.2004
Production and distribution of short fiction video films to cater rural audience	10.00	Nil
International Documentaries, Short and Animation Film Festival	92.00	94.67

Modernisation and Replacement of obsolete equipments of Films Division	100	Nil
Webcasting and digitalization of Films Division	105.00	60.51
Setting up of Museum of Moving Images	105.00	Nil
	407.00	145.18

67. Out of the budgetary allocations of Rs. 407 lakhs for various schemes in Films Division, Rs. 145.18 lakhs only could be utilised by the Division during 2003-2004.

68. The Committee desired to know the reasons for gross underutilisation of budgetary allocations. The Ministry in their reply have stated that an amount of Rs. 100 lakhs allotted in respect of 'Modernisation and replacement of obsolete equipments' of films division could not be utilised as the administrative approval of the Ministry was conveyed to Films Division on 6.1.2004. Films Division could not complete the tendering process on time and in order to avoid complications that may arise due to shortcuts in procedure, Films Division did not proceed ahead with placing the orders for the equipments.

69. With regard to 'Museum of Moving Images' (MOMI) in the Films Division complex at Mumbai, an outlay of Rs. 100 lakhs was made but no expenditure could be incurred during 2003-2004, as the proposal for setting up MOMI is still in the conceptual stage and the concept has not crystallised due to the special nature of the concept and it needs to be fully elaborated with inputs from experts in the field.

PART- II
RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS

Recommendation No.1

Budgetary Provision

The Committee note that in the Annual Plan 2002-2003, the Ministry was allocated Rs. 878.00 crores (Rs. 415 crores –DBS + Rs. 463 crores – IEBR), in the year 2003-2004 it was allocated Rs. 890.00 crores (Rs. 415 crores –DBS + Rs. 475 crores – IEBR) and in this financial year 2004-2005 it has been allocated Rs. 955 crores (Rs. 480 crores – DBS + Rs. 475 crores – IEBR).

The Committee note that a major chunk of the increase in allocation in this Domestic Budgetary Support in the present financial year 2004-2005 has been given to the Broadcasting Sector for the upgradation/expansion of MW & FM services in All India Radio. In 2002-2003 these schemes were given Rs. 3.30 crores under Plan Budget, in 2003-2004 this allocation was Rs. 26.53 crores and this year it is Rs. 62.28 crores. Although the Committee are extremely happy with the increase in the allocation but they express regret over the shortfall in expenditure during the first two years of the Tenth Plan i.e. 2002-2003 & 2003-2004. AIR has been able to utilise only Rs. 0.24 crores in 2002-2003 and Rs. 3.78 crores in 2003-2004.

The Committee take a serious note of the pattern of utilisation of funds in AIR and are somewhat convinced that an increase of approximately Rs. 40 crores in the upgradation/expansion of MW & FM programmes will mostly go unutilised at the end of 2004-2005. The Committee, therefore, are compelled to put in a word of

caution to the Ministry to keep a tab on the months clicking by and the expenditure in this sector through its empowered Committee.

Recommendation No.2

All India Radio

The Committee note that for the Annual Plan 2003-2004, the Ministry had projected an outlay of Rs. 250 crores for All India Radio. However, the Planning Commission allocated Rs.201 crores. But this has been reduced to Rs. 163.36 crores by the Ministry at RE stage. The Ministry could utilize only Rs. 120.27 crores during 2003-04. During 2004-2005, the AIR has been allocated Rs. 252.00 crores.

The Committee note with serious concern that the underutilisation of funds during 2003-2004 has been in respect of Continuing Schemes including J&K Special Package and Upgradation/Expansion schemes, primarily, due to non-procurement of equipments, problem in tendering, early closure of roads in Kargil and non-commissioning of technically ready projects for want of operational and maintenance staff as a result of which the AIR could meet a physical target of 28 Nos. against the desired target of 36 Nos. The Committee feel that due to the non-execution of projects envisaged during 2003-04, the benefits intended to be derived from the projects could not reach the people especially with reference to projects in Jammu and Kashmir and North Eastern Region.

The Committee have been informed that the Physical target for 2004-2005 is 38. Looking at the achievement for the year 2003-2004, the Committee are

concerned for the fulfilment of targets for the year 2004-2005. The Committee, therefore, opine that for prudent and realistic utilization of budgetary allocations, the Ministry must go in for correct tendering, timely placement of orders and take prudent decisions apart from primarily redeploying existing staff wherever possible recruiting operational & maintenance staff only if unavoidable to put into use the existing assets. The Committee trust that AIR will put in all efforts to utilise the higher budgetary allocations provided for in 2004-2005 judiciously and timely for execution of schemes envisaged by the Ministry. The Committee would like to be apprised of the matter in this regard.

Recommendation No.3

AIR – Physical Targets

The Committee note that out of 36 schemes targeted for completion during 2003-2004, 11 schemes have been carried over to 2004-2005, 6 schemes could not be completed due to delay in tenders and two schemes have been delayed due to adverse weather conditions and delay in placing orders for transmitters. The Committee are not convinced with the reasons adduced by the Ministry for delay in execution of schemes. Adverse weather conditions at Kargil could not have been unforeseen in advance in the case of J&K. Similarly the delay in placing order for the transmitter in the case of Najibabad project could have been avoided had appropriate steps been taken well in advance. It clearly manifests lack of planning and foresight on the part of Ministry. The Committee, therefore, desire the Ministry to make a comprehensive review of the projects well in advance and take timely

corrective measures to execute the projects in inhospitable terrains well in time so as to avoid underutilization of funds. The Committee also desire that responsibility should be fixed in the case of delay in tendering and a report submitted to the Committee in this context within 3 months of the presentation of this Report to Parliament.

Recommendation No.4

Doordarshan

The Committee note that for Annual Plan 2003-2004, Doordarshan had projected an outlay of Rs.731.16 crores but the Planning Commission allotted only Rs.640 crores which was further reduced to Rs. 449.82 crores at RE stage. The Ministry could utilize Rs. 373.62 crores only. There is a shortfall of Rs. 76.20 crores. The reasons attributed for shortfall in utilization of funds have been reduction in budget grants, delay in granting “in-principle” approval by the Planning commission, non-approval of North East Special Package – Phase II, delay in sanctioning schemes for construction of New Staff Quarters and other infrastructure facility, reduction in grants for North East Schemes and J & K Special Plan and due to non-availability of adequate amount of Internal External Budgetary Resources (IEBR), lesser expenditure could be incurred under the head “Software acquisition/production”. The Committee further note that in the financial year 2004-2005, Doordarshan have been allocated budgetary allocations of Rs. 643.10 crores which is approximately the same as last year for execution of various

schemes. This is because of the utilisation potential of Doordarshan and also their capacity to absorb funds.

The Committee regret to note that most of the projects/schemes envisaged could not be executed due to delay in getting approval for the schemes in time. The Committee are perturbed to note that there has been gross underutilisation of the budgetary allocation provided for important schemes envisaged for the development of Jammu and Kashmir and North East Region for promotion of national integration and in bringing them to the mainstream of the country. As the reason for delay adduced by the Ministry is not convincing, the Committee are of the opinion that delay in execution of these projects will not only fail to deliver the desired results for the harmonious development of these regions in particular but also to the country as a whole. The Committee, therefore, earnestly desire that the Ministry should vigorously pursue the schemes with the Planning Commission and take timely corrective steps to ensure the uninterrupted progress in execution of planned schemes/projects so that the funds provided therefor could be utilized within the time frame envisaged and intended benefits of the scheme reach the people. The Committee also desire that the funds allocated for 2004-2005 may be utilised for execution of various schemes in an efficient and efficacious manner so that higher budgetary allocations may not get underutilised. The Committee also address the Planning Commission and also request them to help the faster clearance of schemes.

Recommendation No.5

J&K Special Plan

The Committee find that under J&K Special Plan, out of budgetary allocation of Rs. 8.40 crores during 2003-04 in the Capital Section, actual expenditure incurred was Rs. 5.05 crores in respect of Doordarshan. For AIR, the amount allocated towards Capital and Revenue Section was Rs. 10.50 crore and actual expenditure incurred was Rs. 4.69 crore.

The Committee find that five projects with 1 KW MW Tr. are technically ready at Diskit, Drass, Nyoma, Padum and Tiesuru but they could not be commissioned for want of operational and maintenance staff as the Government's approval for continuance of sanctioned posts beyond February, 2004 is awaited. The Committee desire that the Ministry should take immediate steps to fill up the vacancies for commissioning the projects which are technically ready as they are strategically important for the country. The feasibility of redeployment of staff should be initially explored. The Committee hope that the funds to the tune of Rs. 22.65 crores towards Capital and Revenue Section for 2004-2005 for AIR and Doordarshan will be judiciously utilised within the period so as to ensure the benefits reach the people of the region. The Committee may be kept informed about the outcome of the steps taken in this regard.

Recommendation No. 6

North East Special Package

The Committee note that approval for North Eastern Special Package Phase II is yet to be accorded by the Government. Delay in approval of the Scheme by the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) has resulted in underutilization of funds earmarked for this purpose. The Committee note that one of the main thrust areas in 10th Plan is special package for NE States and Island territories. If the projects are not approved in time for their speedy implementation, it will adversely affect the projects of North Eastern Region and hamper their balanced growth. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should take up the matter with the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) for getting its approval without further delay so that the coverage of Doordarshan and AIR will be maximized in North Eastern Region and funds of Rs. 96.63 crores allocated for the year 2004-2005 may not get undertuiled. The Committee hope that utmost care would be taken by the Ministry for utilisation of funds meant for the year 2004-2005 for implementation of the various proposed schemes for the benefits of the NE Region.

Recommendation No. 7

Prasar Bharati

The Committee note that at present there are 4 vacancies on Prasar Bharati Board. The Committee in its earlier Reports on Demands for Grants 2002-03 and 2003-04 had recommended to fill up the vacancies in Prasar Bharati. The

Committee desire that the Ministry should take concerted steps for filling up the vacancies in the Prasar Bharati Board including those of representatives of the employees without further delay.

Recommendation No.8

Shortage of Staff in Prasar Bharati

The Committee are deeply concerned to note that there is a projected shortage of staff in All India Radio and Doordarshan in various categories and proposal for filling up the vacancies has been pending with the Ministry of Finance. The Committee feel that in respect of AIR and Doordarshan, redeployment of staff has not been carried out to the maximum possible extent and hence, there are still vacancies at various levels. The Committee also note that there are many projects which are technically ready, but could not be commissioned for want of technical and maintenance staff. The Committee observe that due to shortage of staff, the Prasar Bharti could not produce and telecast qualitative programmes which in turn has adversely affected the revenue earning capacity of Prasar Bharati. The Committee also note that there has been a migration of staff from Prasar Bharati to Private Channel/FM due to overloading of work on the available personnel, better pay packet and environment.

In the light of above observations, the Committee feel that the recommendations of the Ministry of Finance to surrender existing vacancies, should be accepted. This could facilitate, Prasar Bharati to hire suitably qualified people who may be absolutely necessary.

Recommendation No.9

Need for improvement in the Quality and Content of the Programmes

The Committee are of the considered view that Prasar Bharati should take concerted steps to improve the quality and content of the programmes telecast/broadcast by them so as to compete technically with other private channels/FM in the country. In this era of stiff competition faced from the proliferation of private channels/FM, maintenance of quality is the hallmark to endure in the field of broadcasting/telecasting. Compromise on the part of quality will result in Prasar Bharati losing a sizeable chunk of their business to the Private Channels/FM. The Committee feel that Prasar Bharati could not give proper thrust to the quality and content of programmes due to vacancies at various levels. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting should take up the matter with the Ministry of Finance at the highest level for getting sanction of additional posts which are absolutely essential, subsequent to the efforts of redeployment of existing staff, and surrendering existing vacancies as recommended by Ministry of Finance so that the operational efficiency and revenue earning capacity of Prasar Bharati does not suffer. The Committee would like to be kept informed about the developments in this regard.

Recommendation No.10

Outstanding Dues

The Committee note with serious concern that there are huge outstanding dues to the tune of Rs. 92.74 crores for the years 2002-03 and 2003-04 for sponsored

serials and in-house programmes against National Channels and Regional Kendras like Kolkata, Chennai, Trivandrum, Bangalore, Mumbai and Hyderabad. The Committee observe that the Prasar Bharati could not recover even a portion of outstanding dues from the defaulters. The Committee feel that considering the quantum of dues involved and gravity of situation, recovery of dues must engage the prime attention of the management of Prasar Bharati. The Committee also feel that the Ministry should not only initiate legal action against the defaulters but also pursue the cases efficaciously to recover the outstanding dues from them. The Committee are of the considered view that the strategy is being adopted by the Ministry to recover the outstanding dues viz., accreditation rules have been made stringent, limit of bank guarantee has been raised, constant monitoring, issuing notices and asking the producers to submit their payment plans are soft measures for habitual defaulters. The Committee feel that harsher measures should be taken against the habitual defaulters by the Ministry.

Recommendation No.11

Strengthening the Content Regulatory Mechanism

The Committee in principle do agree that it is absolutely imperative to check, regulate and prohibit, indecent, immoral content in guise of aesthetic, being telecast by Cable Operator or other operator. The Committee also do agree that in this context relevant clauses of the Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1995 could hardly serve the purpose, for which it was enacted by the Govt. Keeping in view the fact that the Prasar Bharati & Cable Operators are competitors to each

other, the Committee do not endorse its view with the Ministry that Prasar Bharati should be empowered by law to check or regulate the aesthetic quality of indecent and immoral programme/advertisement being broadcast by the Cable operators or setellite chanel. The Committee, in the interest of the public and nation at large, earnestly recommend that Govt. should initiate amendments in the existing Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1995, in order to constitute an independent and permanent Regulatory Body, at the centre and State level to regulate indecent/immoral contents, in the guise of aesthetic, being telecast by the Cable operator including satellite channels or any other Broadcaster. The Committee feel that this is a matter of national image and relates to the building of the character of the existing and future generation of the country.

The Committee, therefore, strongly feel that it is imperative on the part of the Govt. to take up this matter on top priority without delay. The Committee would like to be apprised of the progress made by the Govt. in this regard.

Recommendation No.12

Press Information Bureau

The Committee note that the project “Setting up of National Press Centre at New Delhi” was sanctioned as a plan scheme of 8th Five Year Plan and the actual possession of the whole land was handed over to PIB on 16th October, 2002. The Scheme has been pending completion for more than a decade. Since the time of sanctioning of the Scheme, the project could hardly make any progress and the

construction of the centre has been inordinately delayed. The Committee note that for the year 2004-2005, Rs. 5 crores have been provided for appointing a Nodal Agency for implementing the project and appointing the Architect. An EFC Memo at the cost of Rs. 55.50 crores is under consideration with the Ministry. The project has an approved outlay of Rs. 6.48 crores for 2004-2005.

The Committee feel that the way of working of the Ministry evidently speaks of complete lack of planning and vision on its part. The entire exercise appears to be nothing but an attempt by those who are responsible for formulation and implementation of the project to somehow keep out from the ambit of accountability. The Committee, however, observe that the representative of the Ministry during evidence has expressed confidence that there would be no further delay and the project would be commissioned on time. Since the timely execution is sine qua non of planning and implementation process, the Committee trust that the optimism shown by the representative will yield the desired results and the project will be completed expeditiously. The Committee also earnestly desire that funds earmarked for the year 2004-2005 would be utilised for the purpose for which these have been allocated. The Committee would like to be apprised about the matter in this regard.

Recommendation No.13

Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC)

The Committee have been informed that since the year 2003-2004, JNU has been insisting upon prior clearance from its authorities before taking any steps with regard to the construction of the Building and Housing Project of IIMC, New Delhi. The clearance from Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) is awaited.

The Committee are further informed that the collaboration with Utkal University could not be formalised as Utkal University backed out of the proposal at the eleventh hour. Bihar Government has been requested for facilitating institutional arrangements and the response is awaited. However, a MOU with Nagaland University has been approved and is likely to be signed shortly.

The Committee note that a budgetary provision of Rs. 395 lakhs has been made in the year 2004-2005 to continue with the activities mentioned above.

The Committee are apprehensive about the progress of the project and are afraid the obstacles are too many to achieve any physical or financial targets in this project. The Committee would like to have a factual note giving details such as the date of sanction of the projects, the sequence of events thereafter till date, the cost escalation factor, the reasons of selecting the present location as premises of IIMC etc.

Recommendation No.14

Training for Human Resource Development

The Committee note that for the year 2004-2005, Rs. 200 lakhs have been provided for “Training for HRD in Institutions located abroad”. The Committee note that in the year 2003-2004, Rs. 200 lakhs had been provided for but the utilisation was only a meagre amount of Rs. 6,57,760.

That the scheme is a new one with no precedence in this regard is the main reason for non-utilisation of funds is a matter of little consolation. The Committee feel that Ministry should have done adequate exercise well in advance before embarking upon this scheme. Once the scheme has been conceptualised and objectives set forth, coming up with specious reasons for not utilising the funds is untenable. It speaks of lack of commitment on the part of Ministry.

The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to depute its officers including IIS officers, professionals in the relevant field for training in institutes of repute abroad, which will be a permanent asset for the Ministry in terms of harnessing better HRD practices in this Ministry and also in terms of fruitful utilisation of funds allocated for the year 2004-2005. The Committee would like to be kept informed about the progress made in this regard.

Recommendation No. 15

National Film Archives of India (NFAI)

The Committee express serious concern over the delay in construction of Phase II Building complex of the National Film Archives of India at Pune. The Committee understand that the administrative approval was granted belatedly by the Ministry to National Film Archives of India (NFAI) and that is the reason National Film Archives of India (NFAI) could not spend Rs. 50 lakhs earmarked for 2003-2004 for the project.

Now that the spade work is over, the Committee hope that the Ministry will take up the project on a priority basis and take steps for the expeditious completion of the project to overcome the cost and time overrun. The Committee also hope that budgetary allocations of Rs. 250 lakhs provided for the year 2004-2005 would be utilised fully for construction of Phase II Building complex of the National Film Archives of India at Pune. The Committee may be kept informed about the initiatives taken in this regard.

Recommendation No.16

Films Division

The Committee note that the Ministry could not fully utilise the funds earmarked for the schemes “Modernisation and Replacement of Obsolete Equipments of Films” and “Museum of Moving Images” (MOMI) under the Films

Division. Reasons for non-utilisation of funds are stated to be “delay in getting administrative approval and the project of “Museum of Moving Images” being in conceptual stage”. The Committee deplore this sorry state of affairs of seeking the funds originally and then surrendering the funds at RE stage without spending money at all. This tantamounts to negation of planning. The Committee feel that Ministry must chalk out a comprehensive and realistic strategy before embarking upon the projects/schemes so that the funds of Rs. 100 lakhs provided for the year 2004-2005 could be effectively utilised. The Ministry must also undertake periodic review of the progress of the projects taken up for execution lest they might lose their viability in the long run. The Committee desire that the steps may be taken expeditiously for finalising the scheme of “Museum of Moving Images” and executed without further delay. The Committee would like to be kept informed about the progress made in this regard.

**NEW DELHI;
19 August, 2004
28 Sravana, 1926 (Saka)**

**M.M. PALLAM RAJU,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on
Information Technology.**

No.	Name of the Agency	2002-03	2003-04	Total Dues	Remarks
1	M. F. D. C.	33.13	37.60	70.73	Some disputes raised by the company. Reconciliation is in progress in the Ministry of I&B
2	Film Craft	0.00	12.66	12.66	Bank guarantees encashed. No programmes on Doordarshan. Legal action under process.
3	L. R. Enterprises	0.00	1.55	1.55	Legal notice issued.
4	Pas International	0.00	1.20	1.20	Amount is disputed which he has assured to pay within a week of resolution of issue.
5	Pinky Advg.	0.08	1.02	1.10	Bank guarantee is being encashed.
6	Prabha Films	0.72	0.00	0.72	DG is being requested to appoint the arbitrator.
7	Global Entl.	0.68	0.00	0.68	DG is being requested to appoint the arbitrator.
8	Creative Channel	0.00	0.56	0.56	Disputed by the company
9	First Option T/F	0.53	0.00	0.53	DG is being requested to appoint the arbitrator.
10	Nirubus Comm.	0.00	0.47	0.47	Company has assured to clear the dues by 15th August, 2004.
11	Neerja Films	0.00	0.36	0.36	Company has disputed the claim. DG Doordarshan has appointed the arbitrator to adjudicate the matter. But the arbitrator is not finding it possible to act as an arbitrator.
12	Amateur	0.00	0.35	0.35	Amount disputed. Matter is in Civil Court Delhi.
13	BAG Films	0.00	0.29	0.29	Company claims that amount is payable by Doordarshan towards commissioned programmes.
14	Star Gazer	0.22	0.00	0.22	Legal notice issued. Owner of the company is no more.
15	Asian Ad Age	0.19	0.00	0.19	Company has requested to clear the dues in instalments.
16	ID TV	0.00	0.19	0.19	Reminder issued.
17	Paras Marketing	0.17	0.00	0.17	Bank guarantee is being encashed. Legal action under process.
18	Time Shop Advertising	0.00	0.17	0.17	Reminder issued. Legal action under process.
19	W. D. Consumer	0.00	0.16	0.16	Reminder issued.
20	Jos Marketica	0.15	0.00	0.15	Company has submitted payment plan. Dues are protected by bank guarantee.
21	Ashie Communication	0.00	0.07	0.07	Paying in instalments.
22	A & A Films	0.05	0.00	0.05	Legal action being initiated.
23	A. K. International	0.05	0.00	0.05	Legal action being initiated.
24	Global Vision	0.00	0.05	0.05	Reminder issued.
25	Sakha	0.00	0.03	0.03	Reminder issued.
26	HTA	0.02	0.00	0.02	Reminder issued.
27	Group Advertising	0.01	0.00	0.01	Disputed.
	Total	36.01	56.73	92.74	

Regional Kendras Outstanding**Kendrawise unreconciled outstandings which include disputed amount also against -Top Ten agencies****AHMEDABAD**

S. No.	Name of Company	Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	HTA	3.22
2	Pinky advtg.	12.95
3	Kunal Ads	11.88
4	Translink	9.35
5	Rediffusion	6.45
6	Vihira	3.30
7	Universal	1.45
8	McCann Erickson	1.18
	Total	49.78

CHENNAI

S. No.	Name of Company	Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	Multi Channel	185.02
2	Green Signal	81.60
3	Kinescope	80.49
4	Channel 8	68.15
5	Profad	35.90
6	Vision Time	34.02
7	Maa Bozell	29.95
8	Translink TV	25.86
9	R. K. Swamy	22.15
10	Prema	19.64
	Total	582.78

BHUBANESHWAR

S. No.	Name of Company	Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	Sweet Sound	38.52
2	Pinky Advtg.	14.15
3	Sweet Melody	6.45
4	Translink TV	7.47
5	FCB-Ulka	4.15
6	R. K. Swamy	3.77
7	Brahma Vision	3.06
	Total	79.57

JAIPUR

S. No.	Name of Company	Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	Film Craft	7.62
2	TV Today	6.03
3	HTA	4.42
4	Euro RSCG	3.97
5	Translink TV	2.50
6	McCann Erickson	2.12
7	Suyojan	1.92
8	R. K. Swamy	1.65
9	Clea	1.42
10	PSI	1.28
	Total	32.93

GUWAHATI

S. No.	Name of Company	Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	Delcom	17.01
2	Prominent	4.47
3	Sweet Melody	3.87
4	Translink TV	2.44
5	Sweet Sound	1.70
6	Joslin	1.61
7	Sunrise	0.94
8	Telstar	0.37
	Total	32.41

TRIVANDRUM

S. No.	Name of Company	Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	A&A Films	181.00
2	Baseline	83.39
3	Innovation	77.62
4	HTA	55.15
5	Vanguard	13.45
6	Universal	21.12
7	Translink TV	22.04
8	Omega	11.54
9	Maa Communication	14.89
10	Vision Time	26.65
	Total	506.85

BANGALORE

S. No.	Name of Company	Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	Kinescope	98.05
2	Magic Box	92.48
3	Unit One	74.33
4	Cue-Com	70.25
5	Prime Time IP Media	45.19
6	Translink Tv	20.10
7	HMT	17.70
8	Profad	16.52
9	Uranus	10.01
	Total	444.83

LUCKNOW

S. No.	Name of Company	Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	Fimana	3.00
2	Advision M/Media	25.45
3	Lehar Communication.	22.72
4	Tracer	19.06
5	PEN	18.86
6	Twin Ads	13.52
7	Translink TV	10.69
8	Star Gazer	9.68
9	HTA	9.27
10	Innovation	6.96
	Total	139.21

Regional Kendras Outstanding**JULLANDHAR**

S. No.	Name of Company	Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	Translink	26.90
2	Telstar	22.57
3	Bates India	16.53
4	Paras Marketing	13.37
5	Prerna	11.50
6	HTA	8.36
7	Lehar Communication.	8.04
8	McCann Erickson	6.47
9	Anthem	5.44
	Total	119.18

MUMBAI

S. No.	Name of Company	Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	Sitara Vision	59.58
2	Nova Advtg.	54.18
3	Advision M/Media	38.02
4	Film Craft	32.08
5	Media Cafe	29.20
6	Omega	19.00
7	Prime Time IP Media	28.81
8	HTA	28.77
9	Art commercia	21.30
10	Translink TV	21.76
	Total	333.71

HYDERABAD

S. No.	Name of Company	Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	F. S. Advtg.	58.63
2	Hansa Vision	30.77
3	Maa Communication	24.76
4	Profad	23.51
5	Creative Unit	11.32
6	Mudra Communication	8.58
	Total	157.57

KOLKATA

S. No.	Name of Company	Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	Aarambh Advtg.	2712.00
2	Channel 8	155.20
3	Sweet Sound	94.84
4	Sweet Melody	85.32
5	Spell Binder	69.02
6	Sunrise Media	66.58
7	Asian Ad Age	34.17
8	Continental	22.55
9	Prerna	18.45
10	Sar Video	17.53
	Total	3275.46

BHOPAL

S. No.	Name of Company	Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	M.P. Madhyam	9.48
2	Creative Video	8.27
3	Translink TV	6.98
4	MP Aid Control	5.82
5	Prerna	0.42
6	PNC	5.20
7	Sweet Sound	5.16
8	Lehar Communication.	3.89
9	Art Commercia	3.43
	Total	49.85

All Kendras are taking necessary actions including Filing of court Cases for recovery of outstanding dues. As regards, outstanding of M/s Aarambh Advertising of Doordarshan Kendra, Kolkata it may be mentioned that matter is pending before Hon'ble High Court of Kolkata. At present all the programmes have been taken off the air except KHAS KHABAR which is being telecast as per the directions of Hon'ble High Court.

**MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SITTING OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(2004-2005)**

The Committee sat on Wednesday, 11 August, 2004 from 1500 hours to 1820 hours in Committee Room '53', Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri M.M. Pallam Raju -- Chairman

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Nikhil Chaudhary, M.P.
3. Shri Mani Cherennamei, M.P.
4. Shri Sanjay Dhotre, M.P.
5. Shri P. Karunakaran, M.P.
6. Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab, M.P.
7. Shri Col. G. Nizamuddin, M.P.
8. Shri Ashok Kumar Rawat, M.P.
9. Shri Chander Shekhar Sahu, M.P.
10. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, M.P.

RAJYA SABHA

11. Shri N. R. Govindrajaram, M.P.
12. Shri K. Rama Mohana Rao, M.P.
13. Shri Motiur Rahman, M.P.
14. Shri Sanjay Nirupam, M.P.

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri S.K. Sharma -- Joint Secretary
2. Shri Raj Shekhar Sharma -- Deputy Secretary
3. Shri K. L. Arora -- Under Secretary
4. Shri D.R. Shekhar -- Assistant Director

Representatives of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

Sl.No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Vijay Singh	Addl. Secy.
2.	Smt. Deepa Jain Singh	Addl. Secy. & FA
3.	Shri Afzal Amanullah	Joint Secretary (FI)
4.	Shri U.S. Bhatia	Joint Secretary (B&A)
5.	Ms. Vibha Panday	CCA
6.	Ms. Seema Jere Bisht	Director (BC)
7.	Shri C.A. Bodh	Director (F&PC)
8.	Shri K.S. Sarma	CEO
9.	Ms. Anantha Lakshmi Ganapathi	Member, Finance
10.	Shri Naveen Kumar	DG,DDN
11.	Shri Brajeshwar Singh	DG, AIR
12.	Shri R.K. Gupta	E-in-C, DG, Doordarshan
13.	Shri K.M. Paul	E-in-C, DG, AIR
14.	Ms. Shakuntala Mahawal	PIO, PIB
15.	Shri Swagat Ghosh	Director, DAVP
16.	Shri Bahadur Singh	Director, Photo Division
17.	Shri B.P. Sanjay	Director, IIMC
18.	Ms. Deepak Sandhu	Registrar, RNI

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the representatives of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting to the sitting of the Committee.

3. Thereafter, the representatives of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting highlighted the salient features of the Demands for Grants (2004-05) which was followed by a brief presentation on the same.

4. The Members sought certain clarifications on the issues relating to Demands for Grants (2004-05) of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. The representatives of the Ministry responded to the same.

5. The Chairman thanked the witnesses for appearing before the Committee and furnishing valuable information, in connection with the Demands for Grants (2004-05) of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

A verbatim record of the sitting has been kept separately.

The Committee, then, adjourned.

**MINUTES OF THE SIXTH SITTING OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(2004-05)**

The Committee sat on Thursday, 19 August, 2004 from 1500 hours to 1750 hours in Committee Room 'B', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri M. M. Pallam Raju -- Chairman

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Mani Cherenamei, M.P.
3. Kunwar Jitin Prasad, M.P.
4. Shri P. Karunakaran, M.P.
5. Dr. P.P. Koya, M.P.
6. Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab, M.P.
7. Shri Sohan Potai, M.P.
8. Shri Chander Shekhar Sahu, M.P.
9. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, M.P.

RAJYA SABHA

10. Shri Ashwani Kumar, M.P.
11. Shri Dara Singh, M.P.
12. Smt. Sarla Maheshwari, M.P.
13. Shri K. Rama Mohana Rao, M.P.

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri S.K. Sharma	--	Joint Secretary
2. Shri Raj Shekhar Sharma	--	Deputy Secretary
3. Shri K.L.Arora	--	Under Secretary
4. Shri D.R. Shekhar	--	Assistant Director

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee. The Committee then took up for consideration, the following Draft Reports and adopted the same with some modifications:-

- (i) XXX XXX XXX XXX
- (ii) Draft Report on Demands for Grants (2004-2005) relating to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

The Committee, then, authorized the Chairman to finalize and present the above mentioned Reports to both the Houses of Parliament, after factual verification by the Department concerned on a date and time convenient to him.

The Committee, then, adjourned.