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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(2008-2009)**

FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

*[Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the
Committee contained in their Fifty-Fifth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha)
on Demands for Grants (2008-2009)]*

SIXTY-THIRD REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

August, 2008 / Bhadrapada, 1930 (Saka)

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Committee contained in their Fifty-Fifth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha)
on Demands for Grants (2008-2009)]*

*Presented to Lok Sabha on 20 October, 2008
Laid on the table of Rajya Sabha on 22 October, 2008*



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

August, 2008 / Bhadrapada, 1930 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (2008-09)

Shri Nikhil Kumar — *Chairman*

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Abdullakutty
3. Shri Nikhil Kumar Choudhary
4. Shri Sanjay Shamrao Dhotre
5. Shri Ramesh Dube
6. Smt. Jayaprada
7. Shri Narahari Mahato
8. Shri Bhubaneshwar Prasad Mehta
9. Shri Harish Nagpal
10. Shri G. Nizamuddin
11. Shri Sohan Potai
12. Shri Lalmani Prasad
- *13. Vacant
14. Shri Tufani Saroj
15. Shri Tathagata Satpathy
16. Smt. Rubab Sayeda
17. Shri K.V. Thangka Balu
18. Shri P.C. Thomas

* Shri Badiga Ramakrishna, M.P. ceased to be a member of the Committee *w.e.f.* 26 August, 2008

19. Shri Kinjarapu Yerrannaidu
20. Vacant
21. Vacant

Rajya Sabha

22. Shri Praveen Rashtupal
23. Shri Gireesh Kumar Sanghi
24. Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad
25. Shri Dara Singh
26. Dr. C.P. Thakur
27. Shri A. Vijayaraghavan
28. Shri N.R. Govindarajar
29. Shri Rajkumar Dhoot
30. Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar
31. Shri Shyam Benegal

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri M. Rajagopalan Nair — *Secretary*
2. Shri P. Sreedharan — *Joint Secretary*
3. Smt. Sudesh Luthra — *Director*
4. Shri P.C. Koul — *Deputy Secretary*
5. Shri D.R. Mohanty — *Under Secretary*

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman Standing Committee on Information Technology (2008-2009) having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Sixty-third Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Fifty-fifth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2008-09)' of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

2. The Fifty-fifth Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 16 April, 2008 and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 15 April, 2008. The Ministry furnished their Action Taken Notes on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Fifty-fifth Report on 9 July, 2008.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 27 August, 2008.

4. For facility of reference and convenience, Observations/Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold in Chapter-I of the Report.

5. An analysis of Action Taken by Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Fifty-fifth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given at *Annexure*.

NEW DELHI;
27 August, 2008

5 Bhadrapada, 1930 (Saka)

NIKHIL KUMAR,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on
Information Technology.

REPORT

CHAPTER I

This Report of the Standing Committee on Information Technology deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Fifty-fifth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2008-09) of the Ministry of Information Broadcasting.

2. The Fifty-fifth Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 16 April, 2008 and was laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 15 April, 2008. It contained 44 Observations/Recommendations.

3. Action Taken Notes in respect of all the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Report have been received and categorised as under:—

- (i) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:—
Para Nos: 1-7, 9-10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 35-42 & 44
Total: 35
Chapter- II
- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government.
Para Nos: 11 & 20
Total: 02
Chapter-III
- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and require reiteration:—
Para Nos: 8, 22, 26 & 34
Total: 04
Chapter-IV
- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies are of interim nature:—
Para Nos: 29, 30 & 43
Total: 03
Chapter-V

4. The Committee trust that utmost importance would be given to implementation of the Observations/Recommendations accepted by the Government. In cases, where it is not possible for the Department to implement the Recommendations in letter and spirit for any reason, the matter should be reported to the Committee with reasons for non-implementation. The Committee further desire that Action Taken Notes on the Observations/Recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final action taken replies to the Recommendations contained in Chapter-V of this Report should be furnished to them at an early date.

5. The Committee will now deal with action taken by the Government on some of their recommendations.

I. BUDGETARY PLANNING

Recommendation (Para No. 8)

6. In their Fifty-fifth Report, the Committee had called for details about the exact status of all the ongoing and new Schemes figuring in the Eleventh Plan and Annual Plan 2008-09 within one month of presentation of their Report to Parliament. The Committee had also sought for the date of commencement and the up-to-date expenditure on all the 43 Schemes dropped by the Planning Commission.

7. The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have stated as follows:—

“A copy of the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) (tentatively fixing at Rs. 5529.00 crore) is placed at Annexure ‘A’ and approved Annual Plan 2008-09 at Annexure ‘B’.

As regards 43 ongoing Schemes of Tenth Five Year Plan, these were dropped at the time of finalisation of Annual Plan 2007-08. Therefore, question of incurring of expenditure on these 43 dropped Schemes in the year 2007-08 does not arise. A list of these 43 dropped Schemes is also enclosed at Annexure ‘C’ ”.

(Please see Annexures A, B & C of Chapter IV at
Page Nos. 55, 70, 81)

8. The Committee observe that the information now furnished by the Ministry with regard to the exact status of all the ongoing and new Schemes figuring in the Eleventh Plan and the Annual Plan (2008-2009) is a mere reproduction of what they had earlier submitted to the Committee during the course of examination of the Demands

for Grants (2008-09). The Committee's query regarding the exact status of the Schemes, both ongoing and the new ones figuring in the Eleventh and Annual Plan 2008-09 has not been addressed to in the reply of the Ministry. While disapproving of this attitude of the Ministry, the Committee desire that the requisite information may be furnished to them without any further delay.

9. As regards the 43 Schemes of the Tenth Plan which were dropped by the Planning Commission in the Eleventh Plan, the Committee had very specifically asked for Scheme-wise details including inter-alia the date of commencement and the expenditure incurred till date. The Committee have gathered an impression that by restricting their reply to the financial year 2007-08, the Ministry have tried to circumvent the issue which is deplorable. The Committee, therefore, desire that the requisite information be furnished to them expeditiously.

II. BUDGETARY ANALYSIS

Recommendation (Para No. 12)

10. The Committee, having observed in their previous Report, the failure of the Ministry in 2006-07 and 2007-08 to comply with the Finance Ministry's stipulations of quarterly exchequer control with a limit of maximum of 33% funds in Quarter-4 of the financial year and a March spending control with a maximum ceiling of 15% of the funds, had expressed their strong disapproval over this tendency of the Ministry and had impressed upon the Ministry to work out a strategy at the earliest for judicious spread of expenditure in all the four quarters.

11. The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have stated as follows:—

“The Statement given below indicates the figures of Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates, Expenditure during the last quarter of 2007-08, Expenditure during March, 2008 and percentages of expenditure with reference to BE and RE:—

(Rs. in crore)

Supplemented BE 2007-08	R.E. 2007-08	Expenditure Upto 31st Dec. 2007	% Expenditure upto Dec. w.r.t.		Expenditure Upto 29th Feb. 2008	Expenditure upto 31st March 2008
			BE	RE		
1686.87	1610.07	1135.29	67.30	70.51	1515.71	1585.73

(Rs. in crore)

Expenditure during last Qr.	Expenditure during March 2008	% Expenditure during last Qr. w.r.t.		% Expenditure during March 2008 w.r.t.	
		BE	RE	BE	RE
450.43	70.03	26.70	27.98	4.15	4.35

12. It will be seen from the above that because of the close monitoring of the expenditure undertaken by the Ministry and of the periodical review meetings held by Secretary (I&B), Ministry could keep the expenditure during the last quarter of 2007-08 within the permissible 33% and during March, 2008 within 15%.

13. The Ministry intends to continue close monitoring of the expenditure, as in 2007-08, during 2008-09 so that expenditure is maintained within the permissible limits of 33% during the last quarter and 15% during March, 2009.

14. The Committee observe substantial difference in the figures submitted by the Ministry to them at the time of examination of Demands for Grants (2008-09) and the Action Taken Notes submitted now. It appears that the figures of utilisation of Plan allocations only were furnished to the Committee initially. The data submitted in the Action Taken Notes pertains to the utilisation of the total allocations made to the Ministry in the relevant fiscal. The Committee expect the Ministry to be very careful while submitting facts and figures to them in future.

III. COMMONWEALTH GAMES, 2010

Recommendation (Para No. 14)

15. In their Fifty-fifth Report, observing the slow pace of the Scheme related to the Commonwealth Games, 2010 and lack of separate fund allocation for the same, the Committee had exhorted the Ministry to obtain mandatory approvals post haste for expeditious implementation of the Scheme and had strongly advocated for favourable consideration of the Ministry's request for separate allocation of funds for the Commonwealth Games.

16. The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have stated as under:—

“The meeting of the Expenditure Financial Committee (EFC) under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Expenditure) to consider the

proposal for Commonwealth Games at Pune, 2008 and Commonwealth Games at Delhi, 2010, was held on 19.03.2008. While recommending the proposal for approval of CCEA, the EFC had recommended that there should be a committee constituted by the Ministry of I&B chaired by the AS&FA to scrutinize and firm up the cost estimates. Accordingly, the committee was constituted. The committee held five meetings to discuss the proposed cost estimates and has submitted the report. The report has been sent for approval of the Secretary, Department of Expenditure. After approval of the Report of the committee, the proposal will be submitted for the approval of CCEA”.

17. The Committee note the steps initiated by the Ministry to expedite the process of approvals from concerned agencies/authorities. However, keeping in view the fact that a very short time is left upto the event, the Committee would like the Ministry to ensure that apart from expeditious approvals, the implementation schedule should also be worked out in such a manner that there are no embarrassments during this international event. The Committee would also like to be apprised about the efforts made by the Ministry in pursuance of their recommendation regarding allocation of funds for the Commonwealth Games, 2010 over and above the Plan Outlay and the outcome of such efforts as the reply of the Ministry is silent on this issue.

IV. CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION (CBFC)

Recommendation (Para No. 21)

18. The Committee, had observed in their Fifty-fifth Report that the opening of Regional Offices in Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati was pending as the Ministry could not approach SFC for seeking approval as the stipulated matching savings could not be found by abolition of any posts in the Board. In view of this, the Committee recommended that instead of looking around for matching staff savings in other units, the Ministry should approach the SFC to seek a one time relaxation of the laid down stipulations so that these three Regional Offices could come through.

19. The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have stated as under:—

“It has been decided that the posts of Regional Officers at Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati Regional Offices of CBFC will be filled from within the present sanctioned strength of the Indian Information Service. The matching savings required for filling up other posts

in these Regional Offices have since been located in the Films Division, a separate Media Unit under this Ministry. The matter, therefore, is processed accordingly so as to operationalise the CBFC's Eleventh Plan scheme "Opening of regional offices of CBFC at Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati" at an early date".

20. The Committee are pleased to note that at last a solution has been found to this vexed issue. The Ministry have decided to fill the posts of Regional Officers at Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati Regional Offices of CBFC from the present sanctioned strength of the Indian information Service and also the matching savings required for filling up of other posts have been located in Films Division. The Committee hope that the Ministry will now make all concerted efforts without wasting any further time to facilitate opening of the Regional Offices at these places at the earliest.

V. FILMS DIVISION (FD)

Recommendation (Para No. 22)

21. The Committee had observed that inspite of spending only Rs. 2.86 crore (upto January, 08) out of the RE allocation of Rs. 5.13 crore in the fiscal 2007-08, the Films Division had been allocated a sum of Rs. 11.00 crore for the year 2008-09 for developing short, socially relevant messages and for producing documentaries which can be slotted on television and for digitisation of FDs audio-visual archives (which as of now cannot be downloaded). The Committee had desired in their previous Report that the huge stock of precious audio-visual archives should be digitised and downloading arrangements be made for an appropriate price in order to create some sort of revenue model for the organisation.

22. The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have stated as under:—

"Though it is a fact that only Rs. 2.86 crore had been spent up to 31 January, 2008, major expenditure occurring during Feb.-Mar., 2008 was due to the following reasons:

The 10th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) was successfully organized from 3rd to 9th February, 2008. Because of this, a major portion of the funds earmarked for this Scheme was utilised in the months of February and March, 2008.

In the Webcasting and Digitisation Scheme, the Final Grant was Rs. 5.35 crore, whereas BE was Rs. 3.50 crore. During the year, a

total of 1,291 films were digitized. Thus, a total of 6,204 films out of the 8,131 films in Films Division's archives have been digitized as on 31 March, 2008. The agency outsourced for the work, submitted the bills during Feb.-March, 2008 and hence expenditure on this account could be incurred during that period only.

During the Eleventh Plan, a new Scheme namely 'Production of Documentary Films' has been introduced with the objective of giving a boost to the documentary film movement in the country. This Scheme aims to tap the talent available in the private sector as also talented individuals. For this, funds to the tune of Rs. 5.00 crore have been allocated during the current Financial Year.

Further, as the work on finalization of the Scheme *viz.* Museum of Moving Images (MoMI) for which a budget provision of Rs. 5 crore has been made, is proceeding at a rapid pace which includes preparing an organizational structure for the Museum, creation of posts to man the Museum, obtaining EFC approval and ensuring that the physical work on the Museum begins, it is hoped that the funds earmarked for the year 2008-09 will be utilised in full and physical progress will also be made accordingly".

23. The Committee note that a major portion of the funds for 2007-08 could be used by the Films Division in the months of February and March, 2008 only, resulting in non-adherence to the stipulations pertaining to the expenditure percentage to be incurred in the last month of the financial year. The Committee hope that the Ministry would take utmost care to avoid repetition of such instances in future.

24. The Committee regret to point out that the action taken note is completely silent on their recommendation regarding the downloading of digitised archival material of Films Division for creating a revenue model. The Committee desire that the Ministry should examine the matter and work out the modalities for facilitating downloading of these digitised records at a prescribed price for augmentation of revenue.

Recommendation (Para No. 24)

25. In their earlier Report, the Committee felt that having a dedicated satellite could obviate the need for developing multitudinous film prints, improve the viewing quality, curb interpolations, check piracy and if the Ministry or the designated agency was able to offer a bouquet of services, it could also be a source of substantial resource generation and had asked the Ministry for their views in the matter.

26. The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have stated as follows:—

“This Ministry, while acknowledging the role of digital transmission *via* dedicated satellite in curbing piracy, has already pursued for reduction/exemption from payment of service tax on digital transmission of cinema and Ministry of Finance has agreed to it during the fiscal budget 2007-08. We have also been pursuing with Ministry of Finance for reduction of custom duty payable on import of equipments related to digital transmission. Ministry of Finance, during 2007-08 and 2008-09 have considerably reduced the base custom duty from 10% to 5% on digital equipments under the heading ‘project’ ”.

27. The Committee note that the Ministry have initiated action in the direction of enabling digital transmission *via* dedicated satellite. The Ministry of Finance have agreed to reduction/exemption from payment of service tax on digital transmission of cinema and also to reduce the base custom duty on import of digital equipment from 10% to 5%. The Committee hope that all these efforts of the Ministry will culminate in digital transmission *via* dedicated satellite at the earliest.

VI. CHILDREN’S FILM SOCIETY OF INDIA (CFSI)

Recommendation (Para No. 26)

28. The Committee, having noted in their earlier Report that out of Rs. 2.71 crore allocated for the year 2007-08, only a sum of Rs. 0.45 crore was spent by CFSI till 31 January, 2008 and the work on film making and related activities commenced only after a sum of Rs. 1.95 crore was reappropriated from Film Complex Head to the relevant Head, had disapproved of the way the things were being mismanaged thereby defeating the very objective for which the Society has been set-up.

29. The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have stated as follows:—

“At the beginning of the Eleventh Plan, CFSI’s Plan Scheme ‘Film Production’ was not allocated any sum of money. Therefore, when the State Government of Andhra Pradesh cancelled the allocation of land made in favour of CFSI in December, 2007 and funds were available, the matter of approval of the Scheme ‘Film Production’ was taken up with Planning Commission. Planning Commission conveyed its approval on 31.01.2008 for utilization of Rs. 1.95 crore out of this amount towards ‘Film Production’ and hence the funds

could be released only in February, 2008 and hence expenditure had been done subsequent to that”.

30. The reply of the Ministry reinforces the Committee’s apprehensions that the lack of any allocation for CFSE’s Plan Scheme ‘Film Production’ at the beginning of the Eleventh Plan would result in financial mismanagement. The Committee fail to understand the reasons for proposing Schemes without provision for sufficient means to supplement the same. Flaunting of Schemes only on paper and without approvals and resources is absolutely meaningless. The Committee would, therefore, impress upon the Ministry to exercise due caution in management of new Schemes and plan well in advance for their implementation so that all expenditure is not spilled over to Quarter-4 and the Schemes are completed in time and without depending on reappropriation from other Schemes.

VII. SATYAJIT RAY FILM AND TELEVISION INSTITUTE, KOLKATA (SRFTI)

Recommendation (Para No. 31)

31. The Committee on being initially informed that SRFTI, Kolkata had spent no funds upto January, 2008 from the RE stage allocation of Rs. 3.77 crore and later on being informed during the oral evidence by the Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting that the entire amount had been released to the Institute had, while expressing their displeasure over the lapse, cautioned the Ministry about recurrence of such lapses in future.

32. The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have submitted as under:—

“SRFTI, Kolkata was allocated an amount of Rs. 7.77 crore during the year 2007-08 at the BE stage as Grant-in-aid.

However, the EFC/SFC approval for the said Plan Scheme was for Rs. 3.77 crore and, therefore, the RE allocation to SRFTI was Rs. 3.77 crore for 2007-08. The sanction order was issued on 29.2.2008 for an amount of Rs. 3.77 crore to SRFTI-Kolkata after following the due procedure in this regard. However, a draft was issued in favour of SRFTI, Kolkata for an amount of Rs. 2,81,80,433/- after deducting the unspent balance of the previous financial year on 3.3.2008. The said amount was debited from the Government account on 29.2.2008 as per the sanction order”.

33. The Committee are not convinced with the explanation now offered by the Ministry about the financial irregularities in release of funds to the Satyajit Ray Film And Television Institute. They fail to understand the reasons for issuing a draft in favour of SRFTI, Kolkata for Rs. 2,81,433 after deducting the unspent balance of the previous financial year. The Committee believe that the unspent balance of previous financial year were to be returned at the end of the year itself instead of deducting from allocations of the next fiscal. The Committee would like to be apprised of the precise reasons for the same.

VIII. MUSEUM OF MOVING IMAGES (MoMI)

Recommendation (Para No. 32)

34. The Committee having noted in their Fifty-fifth Report that the Museum of Moving Images was started in the Tenth Plan and is an ongoing Project in the Eleventh one and observing the lack of momentum in the progress of this prestigious Project, had recommended that the Ministry should get down in right earnest to implement this Scheme without further delay and if need be put up a regular monitoring mechanism to assess and oversee progress of the Project.

35. The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have submitted as under:—

“Work on finalization of the Scheme MoMI, on the basis of the brainstorming session held on 14.03.2008 in Mumbai, is proceeding at a rapid pace. This includes preparing an organizational structure for the Museum, creation of posts to man the Museum, finding matching savings for creation of these posts, obtaining EFC approval and ensuring that the physical work on the Museum begins. It is hoped that the funds earmarked for the year 2008-09 will be utilised in full and progress is also made accordingly. It would be the Ministry’s endeavour to complete this Project during the Eleventh Plan period. The project is being monitored by Secretary (I&B) in the Senior Officers’ meeting held every week. It is further submitted that surrender of posts in order to find matching savings for creation of posts to run MoMI has to be undertaken without causing dislocations in other media units under this Ministry”.

36. The Committee appreciate the Ministry’s efforts to implement the Scheme at a rapid pace. The Committee hope that the Ministry’s assurance to optimally utilize the allocation for 2008-09 and complete the Project during the Eleventh Plan period would hold good and the monitoring at senior levels would help in timely completion of the

Project. However, the Committee would like to be apprised of a definite time line within which the Ministry expect to complete all the requisite procedures and formalities so that the physical work on the Museum begins.

IX. NATIONAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR ANIMATION, GAMING AND SPECIAL EFFECTS

Recommendation (Para No. 33)

37. The Committee having noted in their Fifty-fifth Report that National Centre of Excellence for Animation, Gaming and Special Effects which is being set up under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode could address the issue of shortage of manpower in the ICT Sector, had desired that the Ministry should single mindedly pursue the setting up of the Centre at the earliest for the development of higher end skills in the fields of animation gaming and special effects.

38. The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have stated as under:—

“Ministry has noted the observation of the Standing Committee that the Ministry should single mindedly pursue the matter of setting up of the Centre. The consultant is expected to submit its report in July, 2008. Thereafter, based on the recommendations of the consultant, DPR of the Scheme will be prepared and the approval of the Competent Authority will be sought”.

39. The Committee are pleased to note the action taken by the Ministry in pursuance of their Recommendation. The Committee expect the Ministry will maintain this tempo without any interruptions to ensure that this important Project sees the light of the day as per schedule.

X. PRASAR BHARATI

Recommendation (Para No. 34)

40. The Committee, having noted in their Fifty-fifth Report the severe problems being faced by Prasar Bharati due to acute shortage of staff, had desired that some relief ought to be provided to Prasar Bharati to augment its staff strength through some short term measures till a comprehensive proposal is worked out.

41. The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have submitted as under:—

“As regards filling up of vacant posts in Prasar Bharati, Prasar Bharati is not able to fill up direct recruitment posts as it has not

set up recruitment boards for this purpose as laid down in Section 10 (1) of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990. No doubt, Prasar Bharati is facing severe shortage of staff due to which the commissioned Stations/Offices are not fully operational. The requisite staff for new projects has not been sanctioned. However, Stations and offices are being run by redeployment of staff from the existing offices. The matter has been referred to the Group of Ministers for their consideration and recommendations. The manpower requirement could not be discussed in the meeting of GoM held on 03.04.2008”.

42. The Committee infer from the Ministry’s reply that Prasar Bharati is not able to fill up the vacant direct recruitment posts as it has not set up recruitment boards for this purpose. The Committee cannot accept this as a credible and valid reason. When the Section 10 (1) of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 was laid down in 1990 itself, the Committee find it difficult to understand the reasons that had held back the Organisation from setting up the Recruitment Boards in the foregone years. The procrastination over filling up of vacant posts is creating severe operational difficulties in Prasar Bharati. The Committee find the casual manner with which, the Ministry treat this operational problem of the Public Sector Broadcaster, totally deplorable. The Committee reiterate that the Ministry should focus on this problem in all earnest and as suggested by the Committee, find some short term measures to augment manpower of Prasar Bharati without any further delay.

Recommendation (Para No. 35)

43. Observing the inordinate delay from the side of NPC in the submission of its Report on the organisational restructuring of Prasar Bharati, the Committee had desired in their Fifty-fifth Report that NPC be directed to give its report by a stipulated date so that the Ministry could work out and submit a comprehensive proposal based on the directions of the Group of Ministers to redress this problem.

44. The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have stated as follows:—

“Study on organizational restructuring of Prasar Bharati has been entrusted to the National Productivity Council (NPC). NPC had submitted an interim report on Organizational Restructuring of Prasar Bharati in October 2007. The report was examined in AIR and DD and comments thereon were sent to NPC. Subsequently

various meetings were held with NPC by CEO to incorporate the suggestions made by Prasar Bharati and expedite the matter.

CEO, Prasar Bharati took a meeting with senior officers of NPC on 25.04.2008 where senior officers of Prasar Bharati were also present to discuss the draft report prepared by NPC and to give it a final shape. The report was submitted by NPC in the meeting. It was decided that NPC should discuss their draft report with senior officers of Programme and Engineering wings of AIR and DD. It is learnt that the NPC has started the exercise of holding meetings with AIR and DD officials. As desired by the Standing Committee, NPC has been asked to submit the final report by a stipulated date".

45. The Committee note that their advice has been acted upon and NPC has been asked to submit the final report by a stipulated date. The Committee would appreciate if the matter is pursued further without making any compromise in terms of stipulated dates for consultations/submission of reports, etc. so that the organisational restructuring of Prasar Bharati is done at the earliest.

XI. FILLING OF VACANT POSTS IN PRASAR BHARATI BOARD

Recommendation (Para No. 36)

46. In their previous Report, the Committee having noted that against the seven vacancies existing in the Prasar Bharati board as on 18 February, 2008, action has been initiated to fill up the vacancies of the Chairman and two part time members and that selection process for the posts of DG, AIR and DG, DD was in advance stage, had impressed upon the Ministry to fill up all the vacancies at the earliest as vacant key posts are a major cause of underperformance in the organization.

47. The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have submitted as under:—

"The vacancy of Chairman, Prasar Bharati has since been filled up. Shri Arun Bhatnagar has been appointed as Chairman, Prasar Bharati *w.e.f.* 01.5.2008. The process for filling up the two vacant posts of part time Members has been initiated. The selection process for filling up the post of DG, AIR and DG, Doordarshan has begun."

48. The Committee note that the crucial post of Chairman has been filled up *w.e.f.* 1 May, 2008. However, the Committee are concerned to find that the selection process for filling up the posts of DG, AIR

and DG, Doordarshan has only 'begun' now although the Committee were given to understand by the Ministry during the course of examination of Demands for Grants (2008-09) that the selection process for the aforesaid posts is in 'advance stage'. The Committee are unhappy over the delay in filling up of these posts which are important in the regular functioning of the public broadcasting service. They, therefore, desire that the process should be speeded up and conclusive action taken within a period of three months.

CHAPTER II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Para No. 1)

The Committee observe from Demand No. 59 pertaining to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting that a sum of Rs. 1910.00 crore has been allocated to the Ministry for the year 2008-09. While Rs. 700.00 crore out of this is on the Plan side, the remaining Rs. 1210.00 crore is on the Non-Plan side. The Budget Estimates for 2008-09 show an increase of 18.6% over the year 2007-08 RE which was pegged at Rs. 1610.00 crore. Significantly, the entire increase of Rs. 300.00 crore over the RE of last year is on the Plan side with the allocation going up from Rs. 400.00 crore in 2007-08 to Rs. 700.00 crore in 2008-09. On the Non-Plan side, the allocation has remained static at the last year's figure of Rs. 1210.00 crore. It is heartening to note that on the Revenue (Plan) side there has been an increase of Rs. 110.48 crore over RE 2007-08. This is in contrast to the last year when the Revenue (Plan) side witnessed a drastic curtailing of Rs. 166.60 crore as compared to RE 2006-07. On the Capital (Plan) side, the increase of Rs. 189.52 crore over RE 2007-08 is in continuation of the last year's trend when there was a steep enhancement of Rs. 166.60 crore over RE 2006-07. Overall, there is an increase of 75% on the Plan side over the last year's RE.

Action Taken by the Government

The observations of the Committee are factual in nature.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 4/10/2008-PC (Vol. IV), dated 30.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 2)

The Committee in their 43rd Report on Demands For Grants, 2007-08, after an in-depth analysis of the data pertaining to the utilization of budgetary allocations had noted that the main reason for reduction in Outlay under the Annual Plans during the Tenth Plan was the pronounced inability of the Ministry to utilize funds optimally. However, in the First year of the Eleventh Five Year Plan *viz.* 2007-08, besides the inability of the Ministry to utilize the allocated funds timely and optimally,

the crucial delays in finalization and approval of the Eleventh Plan in general and the Annual Plan 2007-08 in particular are areas of concern. This has led to several new Schemes being reduced at the RE stage to token allocations, re-appropriation of funds from one Scheme to the other Scheme and above all an element of uncertainty in the implementation process. Some of the issues covered in the subsequent paragraphs bear ample testimony to this viewpoint. The Committee hope that the planning and implementation performance taken recourse to in 2007-08 is merely an aberration and that the Ministry and all other authorities concerned would take sufficient pre-emptive measures to ensure that such a situation is not repeated in the subsequent years of the Eleventh Plan or thereafter. They would also like the Ministry to seriously consider the recommendations of the Committee with a view to correcting/modifying their implementation strategies and also to improve their performance in the remaining years of the Eleventh Plan. A retrospection of their performance in the first year of the ongoing Plan and the last two years of the Tenth Plan would, in the view of the Committee, provide valuable insights to the Ministry to reorient their functioning in order to ensure optimum and effective utilization of the allocations made during the year 2008-09.

Action Taken by the Government

The Ministry accepts the recommendation of the Committee that is should re-orient the implementation strategy of the various Schemes based upon the experience gained during the last two years of the X Plan and the first year of the XI Plan. The Ministry is confident that through regular monitoring, the Plan outlay for 2008-09 would be fully utilized.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 4/10/2008-PC (Vol. IV), dated 30.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 3)

The Committee note that for the Eleventh Plan, the Ministry had proposed an outlay of Rs. 16829.00 crore before the Planning Commission. This was virtually four times of the funds allocated to the Ministry (Rs. 4831.00 crore) during the Tenth Plan and about six times of what was actually spent by the Ministry (Rs. 2808.22 crore). The Committee are highly disappointed to note that against this, the Ministry have been allocated a measly sum of Rs. 5529.00 crore only, that too tentatively. The media and entertainment industry, as per a recent study, is having an overall compounded growth rate of 18% which is well above the growth rate of the economy. Being a sunshine industry, it is contributing substantially to economy, growth and employment generation. The Committee also note that the size of the industry is going to be more

than double in the next five years from the present Rs. 51300.00 crore (estimated) to a phenomenal Rs. 115700.00 crore in 2012. The Committee while appreciating the very positive prospects of the growth potential of the industry, are of the firm opinion that this would only be possible in a conducive policy environment. They, therefore, desire that the Ministry should ensure a suitable and industry friendly policy framework to enable the industry to perform optimally in the coming years.

The independent estimates by private agencies, as observed by the Committee, indicate that media and entertainment sector is on a vibrant growth path, and is growing at a rate higher than the average GDP growth rate. Economic growth in this sector depends on, *inter alia*, three major factors:—

- (a) increasing public investment;
- (b) putting in place appropriate policies that promote private investment in this sector; and
- (c) reforming regulatory framework to promote a competitive growth conducive environment.

The Ministry has been focusing on all the three areas to ensure that the growth momentum remains sustainable.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 4/10/2008-PC (Vol. IV), dated 30.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 4)

The Committee need hardly point out that if hamstrung on funds availability front at this crucial juncture, the various units in the Broadcasting and Films sectors of the Ministry would not be able to reap the benefits of this boom in the industry. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that in order to ensure that the units in these two sectors in the Ministry are able to achieve the maximum in this period of industry high, the allocations to these two sectors be suitably hiked in the remaining three years of the Eleventh Plan and at the RE stage of the year 2008-09.

Recommendation (Para No. 5)

On the part of the Ministry, the Committee expect them to come up with a clear cut roadmap enumerating strategies and schemes through which they would utilize this welcome opportunity to expand substantially in the remaining period of the Eleventh Plan alongwith the specific financial proposals for each of the sectors. The Committee would like

to be apprised of the specific action taken by the Government in this regard at the earliest.

Action Taken by the Government

The recommendations of the Committee are noted by the Ministry.

In order to ensure that maximum available funds in the Broadcasting and Film Sectors are utilized, the Ministry focused, as a first step, to approve all on going Schemes which are continuing from the X Plan period and are likely to be completed in first two or three years of the XI Plan. As a second step, the new Schemes have been taken up for approval. Once the new Schemes are approved, the pace of expenditure will substantially improve and the Ministry is confident that the rising trend of financial utilization experienced in the first year of the XI Plan will continue in remaining years of the XI Plan.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 4/10/2008-PC (Vol. IV), dated 30.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 6)

The Committee note that some of the major thrust areas in the Scheme of things worked out by the Ministry for the Eleventh Plan include digitisation of AIR and Doordarshan and the High Definition Television (HDTV) Programme, International Channel, expansion of Conditional Access System (CAS) to remaining parts of the metros and 55 more cities and the introduction of Internet Protocol Television, completion of Phase II and III of FM Channels in the Broadcasting Sector. Apart from these initiatives, a Headend-in-the-Sky (HITS) Policy is also on the anvil. In the Film Sector, the major proposals include Museum of Moving Images, upgradation of Film and TV Institute of India at Pune and setting up of National Centre for Excellence in Animation, Gaming and Special Effects. Converting Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) into an International Media University (IMU), setting up of National Press Centre and the Press Information Campaigns are the three major proposals in the Eleventh Plan on the Information Sector side. In the opinion of the Committee, all these Schemes are of immense importance and the Ministry should make earnest endeavours to ensure fructification of all these initiatives expeditiously so that the benefits of their technological advancements reach the target groups at the earliest and the broadcasting standards of the country are maintained at par with the best in the world.

Action Taken by the Government

The recommendation are noted for further action.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 4/10/2008-PC (Vol. IV), dated 30.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 7)

During the course of examination of the Demands for Grants 2008-09, the Committee looked into the procedures, processes and the manner in which the financial requirements of the Ministry were arrived at. Proposals are initiated at the beginning of the Plan by the various Media Units, duly vetted by the Administrative wings concerned, suggesting activities to be taken up and their cost implications. The Ministry then prioritizes them and a consolidated proposal is submitted to the Planning Commission for their consideration. The Committee find that in the case of the Eleventh Plan proposal (2007-2012) of the Ministry, the Planning Commission took a meeting on Zero-Based Budgeting exercise on 17 May, 2007. The Minutes of this meeting conveying action to be taken and other suggestions of the Planning Commission were issued on 18 October, 2007 to the Ministry. Based on this communication of the Planning Commission, the Ministry carried out an in-house Zero-Based Budgeting exercise and the number of Schemes proposed in the Eleventh Plan was brought down from 101 to 69. The Eleventh Plan proposal was tentatively approved in December, 2007 by the Planning Commission and a sum of Rs. 5529.00 crore was allocated as Outlay for the Plan to the Ministry. Furthermore, during this exercise, the Planning Commission dropped 43 ongoing Schemes of the Tenth Plan from the Annual Plan 2007-08 which was already approved in February 2007. Evidently, there had been glaring shortcomings in the whole approach of the Ministry to this vital process. Had the Plan proposals been worked out well in advance by the Ministry, their consideration by the Planning Commission would not have been delayed. If Zero-Based Budgeting had been resorted to by the Ministry at the outset and not after being asked to do so by the Planning Commission, crucial months in the planning process nay the development process could have been salvaged. While expressing their dissatisfaction over this lopsided planning performance, the Committee would like to know about the measures that have been put in place by the Ministry to avoid recurrence of such sorry episodes in future.

Action Taken by the Government

The Ministry has taken note of the observations of the Committee in this regard. All necessary steps will be taken to ensure timely submission of Plan proposals. The Ministry has taken a couple of steps as given below, which is likely to bring about systemic improvement in Plan formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The Plan coordination work has been given to Economic Division of the Ministry with direct supervision by Economic Adviser. A regular system of monitoring is in place, in which the progress of Plan implementation is

reviewed at the Senior Officers' Meeting every week by Secretary. A new scheme— "Economic Analysis of Growth Initiatives" has been approved to carry out various studies that will facilitate understanding of the Plan implementation and the policy evaluation.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 4/10/2008-PC (Vol. IV), dated 30.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 9)

The Committee observe from the minutes of the meeting taken by the Planning Commission on 17 May 2007 on Zero-Based Budgeting exercise that the Planning Commission had made certain observations / suggestions about the proposals of the Ministry. These include the need to look into the desirability of having 30 Channels (Doordarshan); radically improving the quality of production and services; having a few Schemes rather than spreading the thin resources; indepth and independent evaluation of institutions and programmes for restructuring and focus; as much outsourcing of operations as possible; and capacity building of the existing manpower through training and technology. It is the considered opinion of the Committee that all these aspects merit serious consideration by the Ministry. The Committee would like to be apprised of the specific action taken by the Ministry on these suggestions/ observations of the Planning Commission.

Action Taken by the Government

In so far as the need to look into the desirability of having 30 Channels (Doordarshan) is concerned, it may be mentioned that all the 30 Channels are meant for meeting Government of India's Public Service Broadcasting Obligations in one form or the other. The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting attaches high priority to improving the quality of production and services in all Sectors. This is, however, a continuous process and necessary funds are being allocated for the purpose. Training for man power development is also being organized regularly. Prasar Bharati has got Staff Training Institutes at different places for training of its staff in broadcasting technology.

In so far as the need for evaluation of Programmes is concerned, a Plan Scheme, "Economic Analysis of Growth Initiatives" has been launched during XI Five Year Plan (2007-2012) *i.e.* with effect from Annual Plan 2007-08, with the objective of studying and evaluating the impact of regulatory and development policies in respect of Films, Information and Broadcasting Sectors. The budgetary allocation for this Scheme has been enhanced from Rs. 8.00 lakh in 2007-08 to Rs. 28.00 lakh in 2008-09.

As regards, reduction in number of Schemes, it may be stated that in the Annual Plan 2007-08, there were 101 Plan Schemes. These have been reduced to 69 Schemes, from Annual Plan 2008-09, after clubbing various Schemes.

[Min of I&B, O.M. No. 4/10/2008/-PC (Vol. IV), dated 30.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 10)

The Committee note that the Internal and Extra Budgetary Support (IEBR) component which, hitherto, used to be a part of Plan Outlay has been excluded from the Plan Outlay *w.e.f.* Annual Plan 2007-08. The Committee have been informed that the IEBR component would now be utilized to meet revenue expenditure (including creation of content) of the Prasar Bharati, the source of IEBR generation. From the data obtained by the Committee, it is observed that barring the year 2002-03 the IEBR component has never been fully utilized in the succeeding Annual Plans. During the years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07, the IEBR amounting to Rs. 1.23 crore, Rs. 135.01 crore, Rs. 312.03 crore and Rs. 264.60 crore respectively has remained unspent. In 2007-08, a sum of Rs. 250.89 crore out of net IEBR amount of Rs. 616.04 crore has remained unspent by the end of December, 2007. The total accumulated IEBR as on the same date is Rs. 1086.34 crore. The Committee are of the opinion that the accumulation of such a sizable amount of IEBR funds in a cash starved organization like Prasar Bharati is due to the lack of a clear cut policy about the specific, prudent and optimum utilization of this self-generated wealth. The recent decision of the Ministry to exclude the IEBR from Plan Outlay and utilizing them only for revenue expenditure of Prasar Bharati from the year 2007-08 onwards has also not delivered the desired results as can be seen from the substantial IEBR funds remaining unspent at the end of nine months of the current Financial Year. The Committee, therefore, desire that a well defined policy about specific and focused utilization of IEBR funds may be formulated by the Ministry in consultation with Prasar Bharti. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Ministry in this regard at the earliest.

Action Taken by the Government

Prasar Bharati has informed that expenditure of an amount of Rs. 650.20 crore (Rs. 353.65 crore for Non Plan and Rs. 296.55 crore for Plan) has been incurred as against the earning of Rs. 1028.13 crore during the financial year 2007-08. The expenditure from IEBR has been incurred with the approval of Prasar Bharati Board. Further, Prasar Bharati has

to keep Rs. 600 crore as Reserve Fund for meeting the gap between the receipt in Grant-in-Aid and expenditure.

Optimum utilization of IEBR was discussed by GoM in its meeting held on 03-04-2008. The GoM has recommended that Prasar Bharati should generate enough resources to meet its operational expenses upto 50% over the next 10-year period. IEBR will be used extensively for “Software and Programme Related Expenses” excluding Special Software pertaining to J&K, North East and DD Urdu. Prasar Bharati will also meet the entire expenses on Repairs and Maintenance of Capital Assets, Service Tax, Other Office Expenses and liabilities on account of salaries and related expenses for Staff, recruited on contract basis by Prasar Bharati, out of the IEBR.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 2/6/2008-B (Finance), dated 5.06.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 12)

The Committee’s examination revealed that the poor performance of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting in regard to the management of finance was not confined to the planning process only. The Ministry of Finance, through their modified Budget and Cash Management Scheme have stipulated a quarterly exchequer control with a limit of maximum of 33% funds in the last quarter (Q-4) of the financial year and a March spending control with a maximum ceiling of 15% of the funds. The Ministry have failed to comply with these stipulations in both the years 2006-07 and 2007-08 with 35.94% and 34.05% respectively of the allocated funds remaining in Q-4. In the year 2006-07, even the March spending limit has been exceeded as 18.75% of the allocated amount was carried forward to March, 2007. The Committee strongly deprecate this tendency of the Ministry of carrying forward major chunks of allocated funds to the last quarter/month of March. The Committee hope that now when, as per their own assurances before the Committee, the planning problems have been more or less solved, the Ministry would duly prioritize the spending in the Annual Plan 2008-09 so that the expenditure is spread judiciously over all the four quarters and the cascading effects of Q-4/month of March are a thing of the past. The Committee would like to be apprised of the strategy worked out by the Ministry in this regard at the earliest and its effect on the financial performance of the various Schemes being implemented by the Ministry in the year 2008-09.

Action Taken by the Government

The Statement given below indicates the figures of Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates, Expenditure during the last quarter of 2007-08,

Expenditure during March, 2008 and Percentages of expenditure with reference to BE and RE:—

(Rs. in crore)

Supplemented BE 2007-08	R.E. 2007-08	Expenditure Upto 31st Dec. 2007	% Expenditure upto Dec. w.r.t.		Expenditure Upto 29th Feb. 2008	Expenditure upto 31st March 2008
			BE	RE		
1686.87	1610.07	1135.29	67.30	70.51	1515.71	1585.73

(Rs. in crore)

Expenditure during last Qr.	Expenditure during March 2008	% Expenditure during last Qr. w.r.t.		% Expenditure during March 2008 w.r.t.	
		BE	RE	BE	RE
450.43	70.03	26.70	27.98	4.15	4.35

It will be seen from the above that because of the close monitoring of the expenditure undertaken by the Ministry and of the periodical review meetings held by Secretary (I&B), Ministry could keep the expenditure during the last quarter of 2007-08 within the permissible 33% and during March, 2008 within 15%.

The Ministry intends to continue close monitoring of the expenditure, as in 2007-08, during 2008-09 so that expenditure is maintained within the permissible limits of 33% during the quarter and 15% during March, 2009.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. G-20016/9/2008-B&A, dated 27.05.2008]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Paragraph No. 14 of the Chapter I)

Recommendation (Para No. 13)

Another problem area identified by the Committee during the course of their examination of the Demands for Grants of the Ministry pertains to the launching of New Schemes. The Committee note that once a New Scheme has been devised by the Ministry, obtaining 'in principle' approval of the Planning Commission is mandatory for inclusion of the Scheme in the Plan proposals. After the 'in principle' approval is obtained, the approval of SFC/EFC/Cabinet is required to be obtained as per the prescribed procedure and depending upon the financial implications of the proposal. The Committee find that out of the 28 New Schemes included in the Annual Plan 2008-09 of the Ministry, the requisite approvals/

clearances are still pending in respect of 9 New Schemes. These include such important Schemes like High Definition TV (HDTV), Digitisation of Transmitters, Special Component for Commonwealth Games, International Channel, Converting IIMC to International Media University, Opening of Regional Offices of Central Board of Film Certification at Delhi, Guwahati and Cuttack, Setting up of National Centre for Excellence in Animation, Gaming and Special Effects. Incidentally, out of the 43 ongoing Schemes of the Tenth Plan which were dropped by the Planning Commission in the First Year of the Eleventh Plan (2007-08), 11 Schemes were unapproved. The Committee are perturbed to note from the statement of the representative of Prasar Bharati during the Oral Evidence on 28 March, 2008 that initially, they were told to prepare Plan proposal for 2007-08 as was being done in the past. However, the instructions were later revised to prepare umbrella Schemes. Resultantly, the Annual Plan 2007-08, which was approved in February, 2007 was reconsidered by the Planning Commission along with the proposal for the Eleventh Plan in May, 2007 and the entire thing had to be re-jigged after the Planning Commission conveyed their suggestions to the Ministry in the middle of October, 2007. By the time, the Eleventh Plan and the Annual Plan 2007-08 were tentatively approved in December, 2007, nine precious months of 2007-08 were lost which proved quite detrimental to the implementation of all the Schemes in general and the New Schemes in particular. The Committee find the extant situation is not very conducive to expeditious implementation of New Schemes of national importance. They, therefore, desire that the Ministry should strive to work out in consultation with authorities concerned at various levels, a more streamlined approval system in which the New Schemes do not continue to languish for years together and are approved expeditiously. This is highly essential in order to facilitate their implementation before they lose their relevance or become technologically obsolete. The Committee would like to have a detailed feedback in the matter from the Ministry about the action taken by them at the earliest.

Action Taken by the Government

The new Schemes are prepared by the Media Units concerned, which are subsequently examined by the Administrative Wings and the IFD. Notes to SFC/ EFC are prepared and these are then circulated to SFC/ EFC members including Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission. These are considered for approval by the SFC / EFC. All these processes involve considerable time. Efforts are, however, being made to expedite approval of all Schemes and progress is monitored through periodical review meetings of Secretary (I&B).

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 4/10/2008-PC (Vol. IV), dated 15.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 14)

India is hosting the prestigious Commonwealth Games in October, 2010. While scrutinizing the Demands for Grants 2008-09 of the Ministry, the Committee have noted that a sum of Rs. 99.00 crore has been allotted for the Commonwealth Games. The proposal for Commonwealth Games involving an expenditure of Rs. 542.00 crore including Rs. 494.00 crore for Prasar Bharati, Rs. 20.00 crore for the Press Information Bureau and Rs. 28.00 crore for India Trade Promotion Organization has been considered by the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) on 19 March, 2008 and the Ministry now intend to put up the proposal before the CCEA. The Committee also note that the Ministry had projected the funds requirement for Commonwealth Games separate from the Eleventh Plan allocations. However, the allocation of Rs. 99.00 crore during 2008-09 forms a part of their total Plan allocation of Rs. 700.00 crore. The Committee are highly disturbed with the abysmally slow pace of the Scheme. The Scheme is still at the approval stage with hardly two and a half years left upto the event. Because of procedural requirements even one rupee cannot be spent from the amount of Rs. 99.00 crore allocated in the current year till the mandatory approvals and clearances are obtained. This is unfortunate to say the least. The Committee, therefore, exhort the Ministry to take steps on a war footing basis to ensure that not only the mandatory approvals/clearances are obtained post haste but the implementation of the Scheme starts immediately thereafter, in right earnest. The Committee have no hesitation in agreeing with the view of the Ministry that the allocation for Commonwealth Games ought to be made over and above the Plan Outlay for the Eleventh Plan and, therefore, recommend strongly a favorable consideration on the request of the Ministry.

Action Taken by the Government

The meeting of the Expenditure Financial Committee (EFC) under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Expenditure) to consider the proposal for Commonwealth Games at Pune, 2008 and Commonwealth Games at Delhi, 2010, was held on 19-03-2008. While recommending the proposal for approval of CCEA, the EFC had recommended that there should be a Committee constituted by the Ministry of I&B chaired by the AS & FA to scrutinize and firm up the cost estimates. Accordingly, the Committee was constituted. The Committee held five meetings to discuss the proposed cost estimates and has submitted the report. The report has been sent for approval of the Secretary, Department of Expenditure. After approval

of the Report of the Committee, the proposal will be submitted for the approval of CCEA.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 2/6/2008-B (Finance), dated 22.05.2008]

Comments of the Committee

(Please *see* Para No. 17 of the Chapter I)

Recommendation (Para No. 15)

As a part of the Eleventh Plan Scheme, the Ministry plan to convert the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) into an International Media University (IMU). Having observed a lack of clarity about the proposal and the other deficiencies in the infrastructure, faculty and academic contents, the Committee had in their 43rd Report on the Demands for Grants 2007-08 recommended prompt commencement of preparatory work for the conversion of IIMC into IMU. A year later, the Committee now find that no headway has been made in this regard. The Minister of Information and Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs in his Statement made on 26 February, 2008 in the Lok Sabha under the direction 73 (A) of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha has *inter alia* stated that the IIMC had approached the University Grants Commission for the grant of Deemed University status to it. The proposal has, however, been rejected by the UGC because of several deficiencies including IIMC running only Post Graduate Diploma courses; not complying with UGC norms of minimum of five Post-Graduate departments; Memorandum of Association and Rules and Regulations of IIMC requiring amendments as per UGC norms; faculty being not as per UGC norms (One Professor, two Associate Professors and adequate number of Lecturers in each department) and IIMC lacking necessary infrastructure facilities *viz.* administrative, academic, hostel, faculty houses and staff quarters. The Ministry in the meantime have constituted a Task Force headed by the Secretary, Ministry of I&B / Chairperson, IIMC for the purpose. The Committee note that the Task Force in their meeting held on 14 January 2008 have suggested that the management should work on an Act of Parliament for grant of Deemed University status to IIMC. The Committee also note that as per the directions of the Task Force, the best option for developing a roadmap for the implementation of the Scheme is being explored through a Consultant. The developments of the entire last year have vindicated the view of the Committee that the Scheme was conceived in haste and was lacking in clarity. The Committee are pained to note that the Ministry have not taken their advice, given last year, to start preparatory work for the Scheme in the right earnest and with the seriousness it deserves. The Committee have

a lurking apprehension that the current suggestion of the Task Force about acquiring Deemed University status for IIMC through an enactment is also being offered without in-depth consideration. The Committee rather tend to go by the reasoning offered by the UGC while rejecting the proposal of granting Deemed University status to IIMC. The shortcomings and deficiencies pointed out by the UGC will have to be taken care of even if the Deemed University status is acquired through the route of an enactment. The Committee, therefore, feel that the Ministry should give a serious rethink to the entire proposal in all its dimensions before opting for a particular way of implementing it. In the opinion of the Committee, consultations with the Ministry of Human Resource Development and the Ministry of Law and Justice would also help the Ministry in coming to the right conclusions in the matter.

Action Taken by the Government

The views expressed by the Committee have been duly noted and will be taken care of while implementing the Scheme i.e. to convert the IIMC into International Media University.

The Ministry has approved the proposal to appoint Educational Consultants India Limited (Ed. CIL) an autonomous body under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, as Consultant to draw up the road-map for converting IIMC into International Media University. While appointing Ed. CIL as consultant they will be directed in clear terms to address all the deficiencies, observed by the Standing Committee and accordingly include the necessary provisions/modalities in their Detailed Project Report of the Scheme in question so that the operation of the Scheme may start without any further loss of time.

An outlay of Rs. 44.03 crore has since been earmarked for this Scheme under the 11th Plan. The Planning Commission has been approached for 'in principle' approval of the Scheme.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 23/11/2008-IP&MC, dated 23.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 16)

A New Scheme in the Eleventh Plan, 'the Media Outreach Programme' is meant for dissemination of information about flagship Programmes of the Government through Public Information Campaign, Media Interactive Session, dissemination of success stories and conduct of Press Tours. The Programme covers Schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Mid-Day Meal, Right to Information, Prime Minister's 15 point Programme for Welfare of Minorities, Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS), Tribal Welfare, National Rural Employment

Guarantee Act (NREGA) and of course the six components of Bharat Nirman, Total Sanitation, Old-age Pension Scheme, etc.. The Committee are happy to note that a concerted effort at last has been made in the direction of apprising the common man, who is the ultimate beneficiary of the welfare Schemes of the Government, about what all these Schemes are and how to get benefitted from them. The Committee are sure that this Programme will go a long way in improving the implementation aspect of the various welfare Schemes of the Government, introduce the much needed transparency, make the implementing agencies more accountable, cater to the much felt need for coordinated dissemination of information and act as a welcome interface between the Government and the common man. The Committee, therefore, desire that instead of piecemeal allocations for the Programme, the Government should ensure that sufficient funds are allocated for this path breaking initiative to facilitate its moving ahead, full steam.

Action Taken by the Government

At the outset this Ministry expresses gratitude to the Hon'ble Committee for its precious words of encouragement, while appreciating the steps taken by this Ministry with respect to the Scheme.

It is accepted that the allocations for this Scheme during 2007-08, the first year of the 11th Plan Scheme, was done in installments, since this was a new Scheme and necessary approvals were to be obtained. The Planning Commission had initially approved a token allocation of Rs 9.0 lakh only, whereas the annual requirement was Rs. 10.0 crore. Thereafter, the procedures relating to formulation, appraisal and approval of the Scheme including obtaining 'in-principle' approval of Planning Commission and holding the EFC Meeting with representatives of Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission took some time and were finally completed in November, 2007. In view of the insufficient allocation, the Ministry allocated funds for this Scheme through three re-appropriations, after locating savings in other Schemes. These two re-appropriations were within the powers of this Ministry but the third and last re-appropriation required the approval of Ministry of Finance. In view of the above, it would be appreciated that this Ministry made special and timely efforts to allocate funds to this Scheme despite there being no Plan allocation from the Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance.

However, this Ministry would like to state that during 2008-09, the entire requirement of funds for this Scheme has been met through the allocation of Rs. 9.60 crore at the beginning of the year itself.

[Min of I&B, O.M. No. 23/9/2008-Press, dated 21.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 17)

One of the constant focal points in successive Reports of the Committee, the National Press Centre, seems to be now moving toward its logical culmination. The Committee are relieved to note that finally a major part of planning, approvals and clearances has been taken care of and the Ministry are now moving ahead in the right earnest to get the Project executed. The Ministry expect the work on the Project to commence from the middle of this year and the Centre would be ready for occupation by June, 2010 i.e. within two years. The Committee would, however, like to point out that in all their previous replies furnished to the Committee, the Ministry have been stating that the National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC) would complete the Project within 18 months of the receipt of statutory approvals. The Committee would, therefore, like the Ministry to impress upon the NBCC to adhere to the previously assured timelines instead of extending it by 6 months since the Project is already inordinately delayed. The Committee note that the Project is now being regularly and constantly monitored at senior levels in the Ministry and PIB. In order to ensure that the present tempo is maintained till the end, there should not be any laxity in the monitoring mechanism.

Action Taken by the Government

NBCC has projected completion of the civil construction work of the NPC within 18 months and testing and commissioning of Electrical Sub-Station (ESS), fire fighting equipments, lifts, interior and furnishings, provision of audio-visual system, etc. within the further 6 months *i.e.* to make the building operational and ready for occupation. As per MoU signed with NBCC, they have to complete the project within 24 months from the date of approval of drawings by the statutory authorities. This Ministry would like to state that NBCC have assured that they would strive hard to handover the building as early as possible.

This Ministry would like to assure that there will be no laxity in monitoring of the Scheme.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 23/9/2008-Press, dated 21.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 18)

The 'Modernization of Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity' was taken as a New Scheme during the year 2007-08. The Scheme envisages computerization, digitization, procurement of modern office infrastructure to improve the efficiency of DAVP. As in the case of several

other New Schemes, this Scheme was also included in the Plan without the necessary approvals. Consequently, to begin with, a token amount of Rs. 1.00 lakh was allocated for the Scheme at the BE stage. The Outlay was subsequently enhanced to Rs. 54.00 lakh at the RE stage. The Committee note that DAVP is also playing an important role in dissemination of information and is supplementing the ambitious Media Outreach Programme. The modernization would, therefore, go a long way in enabling the Directorate to function in a more efficient and professional manner. They, therefore, desire that sufficient funds should be allocated for the Scheme so that its implementation does not suffer due to paucity of funds.

Action Taken by the Government

The Scheme 'Modernization of Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity' was proposed for inclusion in the 11th Plan and being a new Plan Scheme under 11th Plan, a token provision of Rs. 1.00 lakh was made under BE 2007-2008. Subsequently, after obtaining 'In Principle' approval of the Planning Commission, the Scheme was implemented with augmentation of funds to the tune of Rs. 54.00 lakh at RE stage. This amount has been fully utilized, as on 31.3.2008.

A provision of Rs. 2.67 crore has been made in the Annual Plan 2008-09 for the Scheme, while the total allocation under the 11th Plan is Rs. 7.95 crore. Thus adequate allocation under Annual Plan 2008-09 has been made for the Scheme 'Modernization of DAVP'

[Min of I&B, O.M. No. 10/6/2008-MUC, dated 15.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 19)

In yet another instance of a New Scheme's implementation suffering due to the lack of necessary approvals, the Directorate of Field Publicity was allocated a mere Rs. 12.00 lakh for the year 2007-08. Even this amount remained unspent till October 2007, again due to the lack of necessary approvals. The SFC approval was finally obtained on 1 February 2008 when only two months of the financial year were left. Till the end of February, 2008 DFP was able to utilize an amount of Rs. 40.74 lakh against the enhanced allocation of Rs. 44.34 lakh. In so far as the physical achievements of DFP are concerned, its performance in the case of two of its programmes *viz.* Tour Days and Film Shows has not been upto the mark. In the case of Tour Days, against a target of 33816 programmes, the achievement upto December 2007 was less than 50% at 15610 programmes. As regards Film Shows, the position is equally dismaying

with the achievements upto December 2007 being 27146 programmes against a target of 60924 programmes. Though, the Ministry have assured that the achievements of DFP in respect of these two Programmes will be maximized in the last quarter of 2007-08, the Committee have their own reservations in view of the performance of the DFP in the first nine months of the Plan year and the fact that 59 Field Units of DFP have been closed so far. The Committee would, therefore, like DFP to perform in a more professional manner in 2008-09 so that there is no repetition of slippages in achievement of physical targets.

Action Taken by the Government

The two Plan Schemes of DFP have been approved by the Ministry. DFP received the approval for the first Scheme *viz.* Conducted Tours/Skill Upgradation on 2nd February, 2008 and for the second Scheme *viz.* Modernisation and Upgradation of Hardware and Software at ROs and FPU's on 11th February, 2008. After the receipt of Administrative/ Financial approvals from the M/o I&B, both the Schemes were implemented immediately.

Following is the physical achievements of DFP during the year 2007-08:—

	Target	Achievement	%age
Tour days :	33816	21,349	63.13
Films shows :	60924	36,868	61.00
Special programmes :	7380	11,834	160.00

It may be seen from the above table that although the achievements are not fully met out against the targets set with regard to Films Shows and Tour Days, the achievement was much higher in case of Special Programmes, the reason being the large number of special programmes were organized by DFP as part of the PIC campaigns through out the year.

As regards non repetition of slippages in achievement of physical targets, the field functionaries of DFP are being directed to fully achieve the targets set for each publicity programme during the coming years. However, DFP also plans to conduct a review of the targets in view of the winding up of some 60 FPU's over the past two years and acute shortage of manpower and vehicles in the Directorate owing to Economic Reforms Committee recommendations.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 20/15/2008-IP&MC, dated 9.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 21)

The Central Board of Film Certification which was set up under the Cinematograph Act, 1952 carries out its day to day activities from its nine Regional Offices located at Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Thiruvananthapuram, Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati. The last three Regional Offices mentioned are functioning on an adhoc basis with the help of staff borrowed from other Media Units and by giving additional charge to the Officials of the Board posted in other Regional Offices. The Committee find that the proposal for opening of Regional Offices at Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati was mooted in the year 2002. However, the SFC has not been approached for seeking the approval of the proposal as the stipulated matching savings could not be found by abolition of any posts in the Board. In the year 2007-08, an allocation of Rs. 0.90 crore was earmarked for opening of these Regional Offices. But as in the case of similar allocations made in the past years, this amount also remained unspent in the absence of SFC approval. During their Study Visit to Mumbai on 26 December, 2007, the Committee were informed by the representatives of the CBFC about the serious difficulties being faced by them due to these three Regional Offices not coming through. The Committee also noted that CBFC was managing all its activities at the nine Regional Offices with only 82 personnel. There are 14 vacancies in the personnel strength of the Board. The Committee expect the Ministry to appreciate the fact that India has the largest Film Industry in the world making over 900 feature films and a larger number of short films every year and the CBFC is mandated with the certification of these films. It is quite possible that with inadequate staff strength and due to the adhoc manner in which the Regional Offices at Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati are being operated, the qualitative assessment while certifying the films may suffer. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should, instead of looking around for matching staff savings in the other Units, approach the SFC in an appropriate manner and seek a one time relaxation of the laid down stipulations in the context of the functioning of the Regional Offices of CBFC at Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati.

Action Taken by the Government

It has been decided that the posts of Regional Officers at Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati Regional Offices of CBFC will be filled from within the present sanctioned strength of the Indian Information Service. The matching savings required for filling up other posts in these Regional Offices have since been located in the Films Division, a separate Media Unit under this Ministry. The matter, therefore, is processed accordingly so as to operationalise the CBFC's 11th Plan scheme "Opening

of regional offices of CBFC at Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati” at an early date.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 812/3/2008-F(C), dated 26.05.2008]

Comments of the Committee

(Please *see* Para No. 20 of the Chapter I)

Recommendation (Para No. 23)

Apart from this, the Committee would like that the resources of FD be utilized for the production of small spots on various social issues and Schemes, etc. These could be sourced out to TV Channels through DAVP or some other appropriate agency. This would not only restore Film Division to its old glory but also enable it to contribute more positively to the system.

Action Taken by the Government

As recommended by the Committee, the new Scheme of Films Division, ‘Production of Documentary Films’, envisages *inter alia*, to produce socially relevant messages of 30 seconds-2 minutes duration in consultation with various Central Ministries for release in theatres across the country, produce video magazines related to culture, tourism and travel for State Governments, and produce documentaries through outside producers for release on different television channels.

This would ensure that the resources of Films Division are utilised in full and also ensure that it makes a positive and visible contribution.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. H-11013/04/2008-F(A), dated 14.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 24)

Another suggestion which merits consideration is the desirability of having a dedicated satellite with the Ministry. It can beam back films to several thousand cinema houses simultaneously thus obviating the need of developing as many thousand prints of the films. Besides, there will be lot of improvement in viewing quality. It may also help in curbing interpolations in films after they are released and also check piracy. Apart from this, if the Ministry or the entity designated by the Ministry for the purpose is able to offer a bouquet of services to various user groups and viewers, the project can be a source of substantial resource generation. The Committee would like to be apprised of the Ministry’s views in the matter.

Action Taken by the Government

This Ministry, while acknowledging the role of digital transmission *via* dedicated satellite in curbing piracy, has already pursued for reduction/exemption from payment of service tax on digital transmission of cinema and Ministry of Finance has agreed to it during the fiscal budget 2007-08. We have also been pursuing with Ministry of Finance for reduction of custom duty payable on import of equipments related to digital transmission. Ministry of Finance, during 2007-08 and 2008-09 has considerably reduced the base custom duty from 10% to 5% on digital equipments under the heading 'project'.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 110/7/2008-FI, dated 15.05.2008]

Comments of the Committee

(Please *see* Para No. 27 of the Chapter I)

Recommendation (Para No. 25)

The Committee note that wayback in the Ninth Plan, the Ministry decided to construct the CFSI Film Complex at Hyderabad because it was felt that the infrastructure could be used for the Film Festivals organized in Hyderabad every alternate year. This was decided despite the fact that CFSI is a very small organization and ninety per cent of its staff is located in Mumbai. The Project lingered on for a decade and a half and it has now been decided to drop it. Ironically, Maharashtra Government has now been requested to sanction a plot in Film City, Mumbai for the purpose. Apart from all the efforts of the Ministry during this period coming to a nought and a project of significance not fructifying, a sum of Rs. 6.32 lakh has also gone down the drain. The Committee are constrained to observe that this is a case of inept planning and processing of a Scheme. While expressing their serious unhappiness over this misadventure, the Committee desire that utmost care should now be taken by the Ministry in planning and processing the Project at Mumbai.

Action Taken by the Government

The Children's Film Complex which was proposed to be set up in Hyderabad got entangled on the issue of its day to day operations and maintenance of the Complex after being set up. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh finally decided to set up the Children's Film Complex themselves in a public private partnership and, therefore, cancelled the land allotment earlier made to the Ministry in this regard. However, the Ministry has taken note of the Committee's observations and guidance

and assures that almost care would be taken in planning and processing such projects in future.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. H-110113/042008-F(A), dated 14.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 27)

What has further concerned the Committee is that an attempt has perhaps been made to misreport the chain of events in the official document. While in the Outcome Budget 2008-09, the production of feature and short films have been shown as zero as on 31 December, 2007, two feature and one short films have been shown as achievements during the remaining quarter of 2007-08. In the very same document in the Chapter 'Review of Performance of Autonomous Bodies', the Ministry have claimed that as on 31 December, 2007 the production of 2 features and 1 short film was nearing completion. This is in stark contrast to what was finally said by the Secretary of the Ministry during oral evidence that no funds were available for production of films till the re-appropriation of Rs. 1.95 crore was effected at the fag end of the financial year 2007-08. The Committee consider the entire matter highly improper. The Outcome Budget has been introduced by the Government to bring in more transparency in the working of Ministries/Departments and to usher in more clarity in their accountability to Parliament. The Outcome Budget is not meant for obfuscating issues. The Committee, while expressing their disapproval on this lapse, desire that the Ministry should be extremely careful while reporting its facts and figures in future.

Action Taken by the Government

Ministry would like to clarify that the two feature films and one short film were nearing completion as on 31.12.2007 and were finally completed in the last quarter i.e. January to March, 2008. These films were carried over from the year 2006-07. As also mentioned in para 26 above, funds for Film Production could be released only in the month of February, 2008. As advised by the Committee, due caution will be exercised by the Ministry while reporting facts and figures in future.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. H-11013/04/2008-F(A), dated 14.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 28)

The Ministry has been for quite some time mulling over the proposal of converting the Film and Television Institute of India into a Global Film School. The rationale given in this regard is that India being the producer of the highest number of films in the world requires a world-class, state-of-the-art Film School with advanced teaching methodology as well as

technology at par with the best. The Scheme has been bequeathed to the Eleventh Plan from the Tenth Plan. A sum of Rs. 2.56 crore has been indicated as allocation as for 2008-09 in the Outcome Budget of the Ministry for certain civil work, machinery, equipment, creation of infrastructure, etc. The Scheme of Global Film School finds mention as an ongoing Scheme of the Eleventh Plan in all the documents submitted to the Committee by the Ministry. The Committee were, therefore, astonished to hear from the representative of the Ministry during the Oral Evidence held on 28 March, 2008 i.e. only a few days after the submission of materials to the Committee that the Ministry were actually now looking at not having a Global Film School but upgrading the FTII into a school of international standing. It is but obvious that the Scheme for Global Film School, which has hitherto been flaunted as one of the major Schemes of the Ministry, was conceptualized without much thought being given to its feasibility and viability, thereby, necessitating an alternative proposal. In the process, however, several precious years have been lost. While strongly disapproving the cavalier attitude of the Ministry, the Committee expect that much more planning and introspection would go into the revised proposal for upgrading the FTII. Since, valuable time has already been lost in persisting with the Global Film School Scheme, the Committee would like the Ministry to attend to the upgradation of the FTII with due promptitude. They would like to be apprised of a definite roadmap drawn for the purpose at the earliest.

Action Taken by the Government

It is submitted that an outlay of Rs. 52 crore has been earmarked for the Plan Scheme viz. Global Film School under Film and TV Institute of India (FTII), Pune in the 11th Plan. Further an outlay of Rs. 2.56 crore has been proposed for this Scheme for the current year.

It is further submitted that this is a new Plan Scheme introduced during the 11th Plan; it did not exist during the 10th Plan.

A concept paper prepared by the former Director, FTII has outlined the rationale for setting up a world class film school in order to enable India to produce world class alumini which would enable us to produce global films, earn huge export revenue and also cast India as a soft power on the global stage. It is submitted that all this has to be achieved without diluting the brand name of the existing FTII school at Pune. It may be pointed out that the new school proposed to be set up adjacent to the existing school. Therefore, it has been decided to set up a new globally comparable school in the additional piece of land available with FTII, Pune, which would offer new contemporary courses. However, the students of the new school would have the option of studying the subjects/

courses being offered currently in the existing school, the objective being that the two schools under the FTII umbrella should be able to derive synergy from each other. It is hoped that existing FTII school, which is already a national brand, would also achieve global standard in due course of time.

However, the Committee's directions in this regard have been taken note of.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. H-11013/4/2008-F(FTI), dated 14.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 31)

The Satyajit Ray Film and TV Institute, Kolkata was allocated a sum of Rs. 7.77 crore at BE stage for 2007-08. The amount was reduced to Rs. 3.77 crore at the RE stage. As per the written information submitted to the Committee on 18 March, 2008, the actual expenditure by the Institute upto 31 January, 2008, is zero. During the course of Oral Evidence of the representatives of the Ministry on 28 March, 2008, the Secretary of the Ministry, to the surprise of the Committee, informed that the entire amount of Rs. 3.77 crore had been released quite some time back. Though, the Officer apologized to the Committee for this faux pas, the Committee find it inexplicable as to how such inconsistencies could creep into information submitted by the Government to one of the bodies of Parliament. This was not the only such instance. The Committee found several such inconsistencies in the information furnished to them by the Ministry in connection with the examination of Demands for Grants 2008-09, a few of which have been documented at other places in this Report. The Committee consider this a grave lapse and express their displeasure over the casual attitude of the Ministry in furnishing information to Parliament and its entities. The Committee expect that there would be no recurrence of such lapses in future.

Action Taken by the Government

SRFTI, Kolkata was allocated an amount of Rs. 7.77 crore during the year 2007-08 at the BE stage as Grant-in-aid.

However, the EFC/SFC approval for the said Plan Scheme was for Rs. 3.77 crore and, therefore, the RE allocation to SRFTI was Rs. 3.77 crore for 2007-08. The sanction order was issued on 29.2.2008 for an amount of Rs. 3.77 crore to SRFTI-Kolkata after following the due procedure in this regard. However, a draft was issued in favour of SRFTI, Kolkata for an amount of Rs. 2,81,80,433/-after deducting the unspent balance of the previous financial year on 3/3/2008. The said amount was

debited from the Government account on 29/2/2008 as per the sanction order.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. H-11013/4/2008-F(FTI), dated 14.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 32)

The Museum of Moving Images was started in the Tenth Plan and is an ongoing Project in the Eleventh one. The Project is intended to be an entertaining and educational museum containing artifacts connected with film making, exhibiting the work of noted directors, producers and institutions for the benefit of film enthusiasts. It would also depict the evolution of Indian Cinema over the last hundred years. A sum of Rs. 5.00 crore has been earmarked in the year 2008-09. The Committee note that National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC), the executing agency of the Project has submitted a final DPR to the Ministry in which the total cost of the Project has been assessed as Rs. 44.20 crore besides a sum of Rs. 1.65 crore charged for preparation of the DPR. The Committee further note that an MoU is being signed between Films Division and NBCC for the Project. On the operational side, the Secretary of the Ministry had convened a meeting on 14 March, 2008 which was attended by eminent personalities from the fields of cinema and museum. Apart from discussing various issues related to the Museum, it has also been decided to prepare a concept paper on Indian Cinema and as to how the same would be put on display/projected in MoMI. In their 43rd Report on DFG 2007-08, the Committee while deprecating the delay in the implementation of the Project, had stressed upon the need for taking it up in right earnest to ensure its timely completion. Comparing the latest developments with the situations obtaining one year back, the Committee are dismayed to find that not much has been achieved by the Ministry in the direction of actual implementation and timely completion of the Project. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should now get down in right earnest to implement this Scheme of national significance. If need be, a monitoring mechanism similar to one being put in place for National Press Centre may be considered for regular monitoring of MoMI. The Committee would also like to be furnished with definite timelines regarding the remaining stages for conceptualising and implementation of the Project within three months of the Presentation of this Report of Parliament.

Action Taken by the Government

Work on finalization of the Scheme MoMI, on the basis of the brainstorming session held on 14.03.2008 in Mumbai, is proceeding at a rapid pace. This includes preparing an organizational structure for the

Museum, creation of posts to man the Museum, finding matching savings for creation of these posts, obtaining EFC approval and ensuring that the physical work on the Museum begins. It is hoped that the funds earmarked for the year 2008-09 will be utilised in full and progress is also made accordingly. It would be the Ministry's endeavour to complete this Project during the 11th Plan period. The project is being monitored by Secretary (I&B) in the Senior Officers' meeting held every week. It is further submitted that surrender of posts in order to find matching savings for creation of posts to run MoMI has to be undertaken without causing dislocations in other media units under this Ministry.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. H-11013/04/2008-F(A), dated 14.05.2008]

Comments of the Committee

(Please *see* Para No. 36 of the Chapter I)

Recommendation (Para No. 33)

The Committee note that animation, gaming and special effects are upcoming areas in the ICT sector and have immense potential, worldwide. The National Centre of Excellence for Animation, Gaming and Special Effects which is being set up under the public private partnership mode is expected to address the issue of shortage of skilled manpower in these emerging sectors having high technology content. In view of the growing demand of skilled manpower for animation, gaming and special effects, the Committee in their 43rd Report on DFG 2007-08 had recommended that the Project be pursued and implemented at the earliest. The Committee find that a sum of Rs. 10.00 lakh was allocated for the Scheme during 2007-08. No funds were utilized till December 2007, however, a sum of Rs. 2.35 lakh has been utilized as fee to the Consultant, thereafter. The remaining balance has been surrendered. The Committee have been informed that the total Eleventh Plan allocation for the Scheme is Rs. 52.00 crore. A sum of Rs. 1.00 crore has been earmarked for the Scheme in the year 2008-09. The Ministry expect the Report of the Consultant, DPR of the Scheme and its approval by the competent authority to be completed by March, 2009. The Ministry have simultaneously started a dialogue with the Ministries of HRD and Labour to start courses in the Universities and Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) respectively for animation. The curriculum for the ITIs has been worked out and animation bourse will be started in 10 ITIs from the next year. The Committee appreciate the efforts being made by the Ministry in the development of lower end skills in animation sector through the introduction of animation courses in the ITIs. The Committee are, however, concerned that not much is being done in the direction of development of higher

end skills in the fields of animation, gaming and special effects. This task can perhaps be achieved with the fructification of the National Centre of Excellence for Animation, Gaming and Special Effects. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should singlemindedly pursue the setting up of the Centre at the earliest, so that skilled manpower is available in the country for the high end requirements of these sectors as well.

Action Taken by the Government

Ministry has noted the observation of the Standing Committee that the Ministry should single mindedly pursue the matter of setting up of the Centre. The consultant is expected to submit its report in July, 2008. Thereafter, based on the recommendations of the consultant, DPR of the Scheme will be prepared and the approval of the Competent Authority will be sought.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 110/7/2008-FI, dated 15.05.2008]

Comments of the Committee

(Please *see* Para No. 39 of the Chapter I)

Recommendation (Para No. 35)

The Committee also desire that the NPC should be asked in clear cut terms to give its Report by a stipulated early date and Prasar Bharati should then work out and submit a comprehensive proposal as per the directions of the GoM to the Ministry so that a permanent solution is worked out by the Ministry in consultation with the MoF for this vexed problem. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken in the matter on priority.

Action Taken by the Government

Study on organizational restructuring of Prasar Bharati has been entrusted to the National Productivity Council (NPC). NPC had submitted an interim report on Organizational Restructuring of Prasar Bharati in October 2007. The report was examined in AIR and DD and comments thereon were sent to NPC. Subsequently various meetings were held with NPC by CEO to incorporate the suggestions made by Prasar Bharati and expedite the matter.

CEO, Prasar Bharati took a meeting with senior officers of NPC on 25-04-2008 where senior officers of Prasar Bharati were also present to discuss the draft report prepared by NPC and to give it a final shape.

The report was submitted by NPC in the meeting. It was decided that NPC should discuss their draft report with senior officers of Programme and Engineering wings of AIR and DD. It is learnt that the NPC has started the exercise of holding meetings with AIR and DD officials. As desired by the Standing Committee, NPC has been asked to submit the final report by a stipulated date.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 2/6/2008-B (Finance), dated 22.05.2008]

Comments of the Committee

(Please *see* Para No. 45 of the Chapter I)

Recommendation (Para No. 36)

The Prasar Bharati Board had, as on 18 February, 2008, seven vacancies including that of the Chairman, two part time Members, two *ex-officio* vacancies of DG, AIR and DG, Doordarshan and two representatives of the Prasar Bharati employees. The Committee have been given to understand by the Ministry that action has been initiated to fill up the vacancies of the Chairman and two part time Members and the selection process is in advance stage for the posts DG: AIR and DG: DD. In the opinion of the Committee, non filling up of the key posts for a long time also contributes immensely to the underperformance of the organization concerned. While impressing upon the Ministry to fill-up all these vacancies at the earliest in order to keep adhocism at bay, the Committee expect that the Ministry will ensure that the Prasar Bharati Board is manned by persons of eminence with vision and immense professional expertise who are capable of steering the organization to newer heights with proper guidance and directional support.

Action Taken by the Government

The vacancy of Chairman, Prasar Bharati has since been filled up. Shri Arun Bhatnagar has been appointed as Chairman, Prasar Bharati *w.e.f.* 01.5.2008. The process for filling up the two vacant posts of part time Members has been initiated. The selection process for filling up the post of DG: AIR and DG: Doordarshan has begun.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 2/6/2008-B (Finance), dated 22.05.2008]

Comments of the Committee

(Please *see* Para No. 48 of the Chapter I)

Recommendation (Para No. 37)

The Committee in their 47th Report on 'The Role of Prasar Bharati and its Future Status' have recommended several measures for the capital and financial restructuring of Prasar Bharati. The Committee note that their recommendations are being considered by the GoM and the GoM have wished that the Ministry should discuss the proposal with the Ministry of Finance. They have also been given to understand that the representatives of the Ministry would be having a session with the Finance Minister in early April, 2008. Prasar Bharati has been in existence for more than a decade now and it is unfortunate that this Organization is yet to have its way for undertaking its capital and financial restructuring. The Ministry should not forget that apart from being the Public Service Broadcaster, the Organization is also a commercial entity. The Committee, therefore, expect the Ministry to act with the desired alacrity in the matter to facilitate the capital and financial restructuring of Prasar Bharati without any further delay.

Action Taken by the Government

The recommendations of the Standing Committee have been considered by the GOM. GOM has decided in its meeting held on 03 April 2008 that:—

- (a) Non-cash proposals including waiver of interest of loan in perpetuity interest on capital loan and penal interest should be accepted, and loan in perpetuity and capital loan be converted into grants;
- (b) 50% of the operating expenses of Prasar Bharati should be met by Prasar Bharati from its internal resources in 10 years time. Prasar Bharati shall prepare and circulate a road map for the same.
- (c) The Ministry of I&B and Finance Ministry are to come up with a proposal as to how the remaining 50% of the operating expenses and the capital requirements are to be funded.
- (d) Levying of licence fee or other means of revenue generation is also to be explored.
- (e) Public Broadcasting Content to be paid for by Government through the Ministries and programmes are to be publicized.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 2/6/2008-B (Finance), dated 22.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 38)

The Committee note that though the North East Special Package 'entailed a provision of Rs. 25.00 crore during the year 2007-08, a sum of Rs. 0.78 crore only has been spent upto December 2007. Several Schemes of the Special Package like commissioning of 19 FM Stations, Silchar, 5 KW transmitter, Gangtok 10 KW FM transmitter, Chinsura 1000 KW MW transmitter, DSNG/MSS terminal, C-Band RN Terminal (19 Nos.), Studio Transmitter Programme Links for Silchar and Gangtok and 100 Watt FM Relay Centres in remote locations (100 places) are all still at various stages of execution. The delays in execution and the consequent non-utilisation of funds is mainly due to the problems being faced in acquisition of land from the State Governments and also due to the difficult circumstances in the North East. The Committee note that Prasar Bharati management has now taken a fresh initiative in the matter by writing to the Chief Ministers and the Chief Secretaries in regard to allotment of land for its projects. The Committee expect that these matters will be vigorously pursued at appropriate levels by Prasar Bharati and if need be by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting to ensure that the implementation of the Projects does not suffer because of non-availability of lands and other routine administrative problems.

Action Taken by the Government

The allocation of Rs. 25 crore during the year 2007-08 for North East special package was revised to Rs. 5.00 crore at RE stage and against Rs. 5.00 crore, tentative expenditure upto March, 2008 is Rs. 4.77 crore. In BE 2008-09 an amount of Rs. 39.03 crore has been allocated for the special package.

In order to achieve the financial target during 2008-09, tender process has been started and purchase proposals are under process. Details of progress to achieve the targets are as under:—

- (1) 1 KWFM station-19 Nos.
 - Out of 19 number of FM stations with 1 KW FM transmitters, sites have been taken over at four places at Changlang, Goalpara, Tuipang and Udaipur. Preliminary Estimates for civil works in respect of Changlang, Goalpara and Udaipur are under scrutiny.
 - At Nutan Bazar, instead of handing over the site originally finalized, the District administration has now offered an alternate site on 30.04.2008 this would result in delay in executing the project. Matter is being taken up with State Government.

- Also six other sites already finalized at Tamenglong, Bomdila, Kilasib, Karimaganj, Daporijo and Khonsa are yet to be handed over by State Governments. Matter is being pursued with the respective State Government.
 - Demand for Champhai site sanctioned and payment is being sent to DC, Champhai for expending handing over of site. Demand for Phek also received and is under process. Demand notes for Lumding and Ukhrul are awaited from the State Governments.
 - As no suitable site at Dawki (Meghalaya) could be offered by the State Government, approval of the Ministry for change of location of Dawki to Cherrapunjee in Meghalaya has been accorded.
 - Order placed for procurement of 1 KW FM Transmitters and transmitters are likely to be received by August, 2008.
- (2) Silchar 5 KW FM Tr. and Gangtok 10 KW FM Tr.:— Civil works for the FM transmitter at Silchar are near completion and for Gangtok tender action is in process. Order for FM transmitter at Silchar has been placed. FM Tr. for Gangtok is being procured as part of the purchase proposal for 42 transmitters, which is under process for placing the order.
 - (3) 100 W FM relay centres:— A tentative list of 100 places for 100 W FM relay centers has been finalized and State Governments approached for suitable location, power supply, etc. for installing these transmitter. Transmitters have been ordered and have reached Guwahati.
 - (4) Chinsurah 1000 KW MW Tr.:— Purchase proposal for 1000 KW MW transmitter at Chinsurah is under process.
 - (5) Kavaratti 10 KW MW Tr.:— Additional piece of land for installation of 10 KW MW transmitter at Kavaratti has now been allotted by the local administration. Order for Tr. has been placed.
 - (6) Digital Satellite News Gathering Systems/MMS terminals :— Advance AT has been placed for MMS Terminals . For DSNG Systems, technical evaluation of tenders is over and Firms have been asked to confirm validation of offers.
 - (7) C-Band RN Terminals (19 Nos.):— Technical Evaluation of the bids completed and commercials bids have been opened. The L-1 firm has been asked to extend offer validity.

- (8) **Studio Transmitters Programme Links for Silchar and Gangtok:**—NIT has been issued and tenders are due for opening on 22.5.2008.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 2/6/2008-B (Finance), dated 22.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 39)

The Committee note that the objective of this Scheme is installation of SW DRM Transmitter for nationwide coverage in digital mode, FM expansion, studio digitisation and connectivity. A sum of Rs. 4.08 crore was allocated for the Scheme in 2007-08. For 2008-09, an amount of Rs. 63.88 crore has been earmarked for the Scheme entailing procurement of 6 Nos. of 10 KW MW DRM Transmitters and 44 Nos. of C-Band Terminals. The Ministry have already initiated action for procurement of transmitters and studio transmitters links so as to ensure timely completion of the Scheme. The digitisation of transmitters, studios, connectivity and DTH Channel, in the opinion of the Committee would go a long way in ushering a technological revolution in the quality of broadcasting in the country. The Committee, therefore, exhort the Ministry to follow-up the implementation of this important Scheme on a regular basis and also ensure that sufficient funds are available without any delay for the Scheme to facilitate its timely completion.

Action Taken by the Government

The following Schemes have already been approved under this scheme:—

- (a) 6 Nos. 10 Kw MW DRM transmitters,
- (b) 44 Nos C-band RN Terminals, and
- (c) Digitalization of Studio Transmitters Links.

Purchase action has already been initiated and procurement of equipments is expected to materialize during 2008-09.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 2/6/2008-B (Finance), dated 22.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 40)

The objective of Phase-I of J&K Special Package was improvement of DD transmission coverage in J&K while in Phase-II of the Package, emphasis has been on improvement of content. The Phase-I of the Package has been implemented except the tower work at Amritsar. The Committee during the course of the examination of the Demands for Grants last year

had been informed by the Ministry that the tower at Amritsar would be completed in 2007-08. The completion date of tower has, however, been staggered to Quarter-3 of 2008-09. The Committee find that the Project has been delayed due to non-procurement of a special type of steel required for the tower. Doordarshan has been regularly pursuing the matter with the firm executing the Project and it is expected that the tower will be completed by end of this year. The tower at Amritsar, which is the last pending item of Phase-I of the J&K Special Package has already been inordinately delayed. The Committee, therefore, desire that a constant follow-up of the Project should be maintained by Doordarshan so that it is completed by the revised deadline of end 2008 by all means. The Phase-II of the package for which a sum of Rs. 3.00 crore had been earmarked for 2007-08, had no spendings till December, 2007 because the Scheme was approved only in September, 2007. This is another instance where the implementation of a Scheme has suffered for want of timely approvals. The Committee expect that the implementation of the Special Package during the Annual Plan 2008-09 for which a combined allocation of Rs. 35.99 crore has been made for Phases-I and II would not suffer from such glitches and the funds will be utilized optimally and as per prescribed timelines.

Action Taken by the Government

Regarding the work of erection of 300 M tower at Amritsar, foundation work of the tower has been completed. Part material for the tower (about 300 MT out of total approximate 1200 MT) has been supplied at the site. Erection of tower is expected to commence very shortly. The project is being monitored continuously and regular interaction is being held with the representative of the firm. Close monitoring and follow up action is regularly being taken every fortnight at the Zonal Office level and every month at Directorate level. It is expected that the tower work is likely to be completed by end of 2008.

Prasar Bharati has also informed that the implementation of the J&K Special Package (Phase-II) is being monitored closely. Progress of different scheme is as under:—

- (1) Upgradation of Earth Station Jammu is likely to be completed in the year 2008-09.
- (2) 10000 numbers DTH set and TV set in J&K have been handed over to the State Government for distribution.
- (3) The procurement of UPS (40 Nos.) for Doordarshan transmitters in J&K is in progress and is likely to be completed by December 2008.

- (4) Guidelines for Kashir Channel have been finalized and empanellment of Producers is under process.

The amount allocated for J&K Special Package will be fully utilized.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 2/6/2008-B (Finance), dated 22.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 41)

The International Channel Scheme has been launched with the objective of projecting India's position and viewpoint on sensitive global issues in as many countries as possible by introduction of international news and programming through the existing DD-News Channel with simulcasting on DD-India which has a footprint in large number of countries. The Committee have been given to understand that the Channel would air the Indian position globally in the same way as channels like Al-Jazeera, BBC, CNN, CCT, etc. The financial implications of the Project are roughly of the order of Rs. 100.00 crore and Prasar Bharati has been asked to firm up a detailed proposal including engagement of satellite for augmenting the footprint of DD-India and development of additional international news and programming content and arrangement for distribution of contents. Since the proposal is at the formulation stage, a provision of Rs. 1.00 crore has been made in the BE 2008-09 for this Scheme. The Committee feel that the proposal for an international Channel airing India's views on globally, has been mooted not a day soon. As an emerging international power, it is but imperative that the voice of India is heard and appreciated by the global community. The Committee recommend that the Scheme is followed up in right earnest.

Action Taken by the Government

Prasar Bharati has informed that DD-News is in the process of revising daily fixed-point chart, and has projected four distinct slots for international content per day. These slots will cater to America, Europe, Africa, West Asia, Asia Pacific Region, and SAARC respectively.

Steps have been taken to enhance international content on the channel. A weekly half-four round up of international events—“Prime Meridian”, is being telecast at 9.30 PM on Sunday every week. This provides comprehensive inputs on news developments across the world.

A monthly News Report focusing on developments in the SAARC region, including discussion with an expert on relevant issues, is telecast

at 3 PM, on the last Saturday of every month. These discussions take into account the Indian position on SAARC issues.

DD News bulletins in both English and Hindi, carry latest updates on the news happenings of the day. This is being done on a daily basis, round the clock. Our most important Prime-Time bulletin, Samachar Plus, often carries discussions on major international events, which take into account the Indian position on these issues.

Special inputs are taken over phone form Prasar Bharati correspondents posted abroad, in West Asia, Afghanistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, in case of Breaking News situation. In important breaking news situation, inputs are also being form PTI correspondents based across the world.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 2/6/2008-B (Finance), dated 5.06.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 42)

The induction of High Definition TV will mark a paradigm shift in the broadcasting quality of Doordarshan. Keeping the immense value of this technological development and its usefulness in connection with the Commonwealth Games, 2010, the Committee had in their 43rd Report asked the Ministry a year ago that the Scheme be taken up and implemented promptly. They are, however, distressed to notice that no progress has been made in the implementation of the Scheme during the entire last year due to non-receipt of the necessary approvals. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Scheme should be implemented with the urgency it deserves after obtaining all necessary clearances on priority basis.

Action Taken by the Government

Doordarshan's pilot project for HDTV has already been approved. The pilot project envisages provision of an EFP (Electronic Field Production) van, ENG camcorders and associated postproduction facilities at Delhi. Tenders for the EFP van have been received and are under technical evaluation. Specifications for camcorders and VCRs are under revision.

The Scheme for establishment of HDTV studios at Delhi and Mumbai and provision of OB and post production facility at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, besides satellite uplink for HDTV at Delhi (for putting HDTV channel on DTH Platform) and digital transmitter at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai for terrestrial relay of HDTV programmes has been included for implementation during the XIth Plan.

The DPR and EFC memo for the above Scheme has already been circulated among the concerned Ministries and Planning Commission for their approval and comments.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 2/6/2008-B (Finance), dated 22.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 44)

The Committee note that an Electronic Media Monitoring Centre is being set up with the laudable objective of monitoring the contents of telecast to keep a track of the violations of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the Rules framed thereunder. It will also monitor the content of private FM radio stations, DTH, etc. When functional, the EMMC would be able to perform automated recording of 100 TV Channels simultaneously based on pre-defined recording schedule. It will also be capable of online retrieval and browsing of logged footage and content and archiving and recall of content for future reference. The Committee find it most unfortunate that this very important Scheme is yet to see the light of the day inspite of having been started in the Tenth Plan. The Ministry's explanation that the change of location of the Centre because of refusal of CPWD to install antennas, etc. at the first location appears at best specious to the Committee. Such routine things ought to have been sorted out at the very outset when the first location was identified. The Committee cannot but disapprove the failure on the part of the Ministry in basic planning. The Committee desire that in view of the widespread complaints about controversial and offensive contents and the crying need for having an appropriate system of monitoring, the EMMC should be commissioned in the first quarter-of 2008-09 as assured by the Ministry.

Action Taken by the Government

It is a fact that there is delay in commissioning the project due to the reasons beyond the control of the Ministry. It would also be relevant to mention here that CPWD was reluctant to allot the said space to this Ministry with the plea that it should explore its own space in Soochna Bhawan or elsewhere. However, there was no space available in Soochna Bhawan. The space was allotted after negotiations at very senior level. Again CPWD denied permission to install antennae on the rooftop of Pushpa Bhawan with the plea, amongst others, that the same will disturb aesthetic look of the building. This was conveyed after the renovation work started at the CPWD site. In fact, the matter was taken up by Additional Secretary, Ministry of I&B with the Additional Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development for the permission but CPWD insisted on the denial. Therefore, this Ministry had no alternative but to explore

alternate site for the project. Finally some space at IP Estate was selected in March, 2007. Subsequently, work of the project had begun. During the last one year, civil and electrical work was completed. AC system was also installed. Orders for equipments were placed following clearance from the Consultancy Evaluation Committee. Posting of staff has also been decided. The progress of the project is being monitored by Consultancy Evaluation Committee chaired by joint Secretary (Broadcasting) and Project Monitoring Committee headed by Director (BC). As per the report given by the Project Executing Agency, Broadcast Engineering Consultants (India) Ltd. (BECIL), the EMMC has been set up and started functioning with effect from 09.06.2008 following its inauguration by the then Secretary, I&B.

[Ministry of I&B, O.M. No. 6/2/2008-B-IV(Part), dated 04.07.2008]

CHAPTER III

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Para No. 11)

In order to have a holistic view of the systemic shortcomings and the problems besetting the financial planning of the Ministry, the Committee conducted an in-depth analysis of the performance of the Ministry in handling the allocations made to them in the successive Demands for Grants in the Tenth Plan and the year 2007-08 *i.e.* the First Year of the Eleventh Plan. In the Tenth Plan, as against Rs. 6067.40 crore sought by the Ministry, a sum of Rs. 4381.00 crore was allocated at the BE stages. The cumulative allocation at the RE stages of the five Annual Plans stood reduced to Rs. 3328.70 crore. The Ministry were, however, able to spend Rs. 2808.22 crore only which is about 46% of the allocation sought and 64% and 84% respectively of the funds that were at the disposal of the Ministry at the BE and RE stages. In the first year of the Eleventh Plan *viz.* 2007-08, the Ministry had sought Rs. 1777.90 crore as allocation. They were allocated a sum of Rs. 475.00 crore at the BE stage which was further reduced to Rs. 400.00 crore at the RE stage. The actual expenditure of Rs. 372.31 crore as on 29 February, 2008 was hardly 21% of the allocation sought, 78.38% of the BE and 93% of the RE. In the year 2008-09, against the proposed allocation of Rs. 1072.00 crore, the Ministry have been allocated Rs. 700.00 crore, which includes a sum of Rs. 99.00 crore for the Commonwealth Games, 2010. The amount allocated is 56% of the amount sought. In the Tenth Plan a major cause of the reduction in allocation at the RE stages and the underutilization of funds was due to the inability of the Ministry to plan implementation of Schemes in a judicious manner. In the First Year of the Eleventh Plan, the delay in finalization of Plan proposals both for the Eleventh Plan and the Annual Plan have been the main contributory factor for reduction in allocation at the RE stage from Rs. 475.00 crore to Rs. 400.00 crore. Though the Ministry have stated that they expect the entire amount to be utilized by the end of the fiscal, the fact remains that till September, 2007 hardly 31% of the BE was spent leading to reduction of the BE amount by Rs. 75.00 crore at the RE stage. Apart from that, even the RE allocation has been utilized by re-appropriating and diverting funds to other Heads/

Schemes as the Schemes for which these were meant for did not have the requisite clearances/approvals for funds release. All these clearly show the highly unprofessional approach of the Ministry in the budget and financial management. The Committee find such a situation as totally unacceptable particularly when they lead to not only waste of precious funds but also stagger and delay the developmental process. They, therefore, desire that the Government should come out with a clear cut and precise set of guidelines for the Ministries/Departments regarding how they should go about with regard to the conceptualization and planning stages of their proposals for the Plan allocations so that all related formalities are complied with and completed well in time and before the Plan concerned. Considering the pressing need for such a policy, the Committee expect an urgent response from the Government in the matter.

Action Taken by the Government

The matter regarding process of approval of the Schemes is being reviewed by Secretary (I&B) every week in the Senior Officers' meeting. The periodical review taken by Secretary (I&B) has resulted in perceptible improvement in utilization of budgetary provisions, as seen from the statement given below:—

(Rupees in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actual Expdr. (approx.)	Percentage of expdr. w.r.t.	
				BE	RE
2006-07	538	475	356.68	66.67	75.51
2007-08	475	400	398.15*	83.82	99.54

*As per PAO's figure as on 28.04.08

It is expected that regular review by Secretary (I&B) will yield results expediting the process of approval during the current year.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 4/10/2008-PC (Vol. IV), dated 15.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 20)

The Committee would also like to draw the attention of the Ministry to some inconsistencies in the information furnished by them with regards to the demands of DFP. In the Outcome Budget 2008-09, a sum of Rs. 2.00 crore has been shown as BE for the Organization. In the Demands for Grants and the Budget Brief this amount has been shown as Rs. 0.49 crore. The Committee would like the Ministry to reconcile these inconsistencies in figures.

Action Taken by the Government

For the current financial year 2008-09, DFP has been given an amount of Rs. 2.00 crore for its two Plan Schemes. The amount of Rs. 0.49 crore as mentioned in Demands for Grants and the Budget Brief is the amount meant only for one Scheme of DFP *i.e.* Conducted Tours/ Skill Upgradation.

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Plan Scheme	Total Projected Expenditure
1.	Conducted Tours/ Skill Upgradation	0.49
2.	Modernisation and Upgradation of Hardware and Software at ROs and FPUs	1.51
	Total	2.00

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 20/15/2008-IP&MC, dated 9.05.2008]

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND REQUIRE REITERATION

Recommendation (Para No. 8)

The Committee would also like to be furnished with the details about the exact status of all the Schemes, both ongoing ones and the new ones, figuring in the Eleventh Plan and the Annual Plan 2008-09 on the day the Demands for Grants 2008-09 of the Ministry were presented to the Parliament, within one month of presentation of this Report to the Parliament. The Committee also desire that the Scheme-wise details including *inter alia* the date of commencement and the expenditure till date on all the 43 Schemes dropped by the Planning Commission be furnished to them.

Action Taken by the Government

A copy of the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) (tentatively fixing at Rs. 5529.00 crore) is placed at *Annexure 'A'* and Approved Annual Plan 2008-09 at *Annexure 'B'*.

As regards 43 ongoing Schemes of Tenth Five Year Plan, these were dropped at the time of finalization of Annual Plan 2007-08. Therefore, question of incurring of expenditure on these 43 dropped Schemes in the year 2007-08 does not arise. A list of these 43 dropped Schemes is also enclosed at *Annexure 'C'*.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 4/10/2008-PC (Vol. IV), dated 30.05.2008]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para Nos. 8 and 9 of the Chapter-I)

As on 30.01.2008

Ministry/Department : Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

Eleventh Plan (2007-08 to 2011-2012)

Rs. in Crore

Sl. No.	Name of the Media units		Proposed Outlay for XI Plan with year-wise phasing at current prices (Rs. 5529 crore)						
	PC Code (Given by Plg. Comm. for AP 2007-08)	Central Sector Schemes	Nature of the Schemes	Total Outlay Proposed for 2007-08	Total Outlay Proposed for 2008-09	Total Outlay Proposed for 2009-10	Total Outlay Proposed for 2010-11	Total Outlay Proposed for 2011-12	Total Outlay Proposed for Xth Plan
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
A.		Information Sector							
I.		Press Information Bureau							
1.	1153	Setting up of the National Press Centre at New Delhi							
2.	100	Media Outreach Programme	(New Scheme)						
3.	101	International Film Festival of India	(New Scheme)						
4.	102	Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas Samaroh	(New Scheme)						
5.	103	Media Management and Facilitation Proposal for Commonwealth Games 2010	(New Scheme)						
6.	104	Media Exchange Programme	(New Scheme)						
		Total:							
		Position after clubbing Sl. No. 2 to 6							
1.	1153	Setting up of the National Press Centre at New Delhi		10.00	5.00	13.00	0.00	0.00	28.00
2.		Media Outreach Programme (Sl. No. 2 to 6)	(New Scheme)	10.50	11.00	9.50	9.50	8.50	49.00
3.		Publicity for special Events (Newly proposed Scheme) (Rs. 0.04 cr. taken out of Sl. No. 2 to 6 above)	(New Scheme)	0.92	1.18	1.40	2.42	1.03	6.95
		Total:		21.42	17.18	23.90	11.92	9.53	83.95

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
II.		Publications Division							
1.	105	Digitisation of past issues of Yojana & Kurukshetra	(New Scheme)						
2.	105	Creating a website of Yojana	(New Scheme)						
3.	105	Computerisation and modernisation of Yojana offices	(New Scheme)						
4.	105	Modernisation of business offices and sales emporia	(New Scheme)						
5.	105	Modernisation of Employment News	(New Scheme)						
		Total:							
		Position after clubbing Sl. No. 1 to 4							
1.		Modernisation of Publications Division	(New Scheme)	0.81	0.43	0.29	0.33	0.33	2.19
2.	105	Modernisation of Employment News	(New Scheme)	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.30
		Total:		0.88	0.49	0.35	0.39	0.38	2.49
III.		Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity							
1.	1157	Development Publicity Programme: Conception and Dissemination (Rs. 8.13 cr. reappropriated to other schemes — Please see Col. 7)		19.61	20.00	3.13	3.13	3.13	49.00
2.	107	Modernisation of DAVP	(New Scheme)	1.15	2.80	2.80	0.50	0.70	7.95
		Total:		20.76	22.80	5.93	3.63	3.83	56.95
		(No Clubbing of Schemes)							
IV.		Indian Institutes of Mass Communication							
		(Grant-in-aid)							
1.	108	Converting IIMC into International Media University	(New Scheme)	0.91	6.86	4.36	17.11	14.79	44.03
		Total:		0.91	6.86	4.36	17.11	14.79	44.03
		(No Clubbing of Schemes)							
V.		Photo Division							
1.	109	National Centre of Photography	(New Scheme)	0.50	0.65	0.65	0.60	0.65	3.05
2.	110	Special Drive for N.E., J&K, A&N Island, Lakshadweep	(New Scheme)	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.25
		Total:		0.55	0.70	0.70	0.65	0.70	3.30
		(No Clubbing of Schemes)							

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
VI.		Directorate of Field Publicity							
1.	111	Conducted Tours/Skill Upgradation	(New Scheme)						
2.	112	Computerisation of Regional Officers/Field Units	(New Scheme)						
3.	113	Upgradation of Audio Visual, Hardware/Purchase of Data, Projector/DVD Players/Wireless Public Address Systems	(New Scheme)						
		Total:							
		Position after clubbing Sl. No. 2 & 3							
1.	111	Conducted Tours/Skill Upgradation	(New Scheme)	0.10	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	2.30
2.		Modernisation and Upgradation of Hardware & Software at Regional Offices and Field Publicity Offices of DFP	(New Scheme)	1.02	1.71	0.94	0.38	0.45	4.50
		Total:		1.12	2.26	1.49	0.93	1.00	6.80
VII.		Song & Drama Division							
1.	114	Live Arts & Culture for rural India – Restructured from ICT Scheme	(New Scheme)	4.00	4.30	4.50	4.70	4.90	22.40
		Total:		4.00	4.30	4.50	4.70	4.90	22.40
		(No Clubbing of Schemes)							
VIII.		Research, Reference and Training Division							
1.	115	Research Unit (Media Research)	(New Scheme)						
2.	116	Reference Unit (Media Library)	(New Scheme)						
3.		National Media Awards (Newly proposed)							
		Total:							
		Position after clubbing							
1.		Research, Reference and Media Awards	(New Scheme)	1.56	1.21	1.51	1.61	1.61	7.50
		Total:		1.56	1.21	1.51	1.61	1.61	7.50

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
IX.		Registrar of Newspapers for India							
1.	1167	Modernisation of RNI Head-Qrs							
2.	117	Strengthening of RNI-	(New Scheme)						
		Total:							
		Position after clubbing Sl. No. 1 & 2							
1.	117	Strengthening of RNI	(New Scheme)	0.20	0.39	0.30	0.32	0.33	1.54
		Total:		0.20	0.39	0.30	0.32	0.33	1.54
X.		Main Secretariat Schemes							
1.	1168	Construction of Soochna Bhawan (Phase IV)	Already completed						
2.	118	Construction of Soochna Bhawan (Phase V)	(New Scheme)						
3.	141	Economic Analysis of Growth initiatives	(New Scheme)						
4.		Training for Human Resource Development in Institutions located abroad	Dropped scheme but again proposed						
5.		In-service Training for IIS Officers	Previously an RR & TD Schemes and transferred to non -Plan. Again being proposed to be operated as Main Sectt. Scheme						
		Total:							
		Position after clubbing Sl. No. 4 & 5							
1.	118	Construction of Soochna Bhawan (Phase IV)		0.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.94
2.	1168	Construction of Soochna Bhawan (Phase V)	(New Scheme)	2.80	12.70	21.50	23.61	14.99	75.60

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
3.	141	Economic Analysis of Growth Initiatives	(New Scheme)	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	5.00
4.		Training for Human Resource Development in Institutions located abroad with In-services Training for IIS Officers	Dropped /Transferred to Non-Plan but again proposed	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	3.50
		Total:		5.44	14.40	23.20	25.31	16.69	85.04
		Total: Information Sector		56.84	70.59	66.24	66.57	53.76	314.00
B.		Film Sector							
I.		Films Division							
1.	1170	International Documentary, Short & Animation Film Festival							
2.	1172	Museum of Moving Images (MOMI)							
3.	1191	Digitalisation and Webcasting of FD Films							
4.	119	Production of documentary films for North East Region & J&K	(New Scheme)						
5.	120	Setting up of Institute of Mass Media Studies	(New Scheme)						
6.	121	Setting up of Regional Film Production Centre in the North East	(New Scheme)						
7.	122	Setting up of Regional Film Production Centre in J&K	(New Scheme)						
8.	123	Production of Video/Digital Text Books	(New Scheme)						
		Total:							
		Only Schemes Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 retained (Scheme Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 8 dropped and the saving of Rs. 0.13 cr. out of this allotted to the Film Division Scheme at Sl. no. 1)							
1.	1170	International Documentary, Short & Animation Film Festival		1.00	0.10	1.65	0.15	1.80	4.70
2.	1172	Museum of Moving Images (MOMI)		5.00	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.25	42.00

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
3.	1191	Webcasting and Digitalisation of FD Films		3.50	12.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.15
4.	119	Production of documentary films for North East Region & J&K	(New Scheme)	0.01	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.99	20.00
		Total:		9.51	27.00	15.90	14.40	16.04	82.85
II.		National Film Archives of India							
1.	1173	Acquisition and Exhibition of Archieve Films							
2.	124	Publication of periodicals, catalogues etc.	(New Scheme)						
		Total							
		Position after clubbing Sl. Nos. 1 & 2							
1.	1173	Acquisition and Exhibition of Archieval Films							
2.	124	Publication of periodicals, catalogues etc.	(New Scheme)						
		Total							
		Position after clubbing Sl. No. 1 & 2							
1.	1173	Acquisition and Exhibition of Archieval Films		1.01	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.24	30.00
		Total:		1.01	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.24	30.00
III.		Directorate of Film Festivals							
1.	1174	Film Festival Complex— Alteration and additions		3.40	4.00	3.90	3.85	3.85	19.00
2.	1193	Export Promotion through Film Festivals		3.82	4.05	4.27	4.50	4.70	21.34
3.	125	Upgradation of Print Unit	(New Scheme)	0.10	1.30	1.25	1.15	1.20	5.00
		No Clubbing Suggested							
		Total		7.32	9.35	9.42	9.50	9.75	45.34
IV.		Children's Film Society, India							
		(Grant-in-aid)							
1.	1175	Film Production							
2.	1176	Exhibition of Childrens' Films in Municipal Schools							
3.	1177	Childrens' Film Complex at Hyderabad							

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
4.	1189	Digitalisation & Web casting of films							
5.		Film Festival and National Digital Film Festival for Children	New Scheme now proposed which were transferred to Non						
6.		Modernisation and Augmentation	New Scheme now proposed which were transferred to Non						
7.		Animation and Film making workshop	New Scheme now proposed which were transferred to Non						
		Total:							
		Position after clubbing Sl. Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7							
1.		Grant in Aid to CFSE		0.86	5.07	4.87	5.02	4.95	20.77
2.		Childerens' Film Complex at Hyderabad							
		Total:		0.86	5.07	4.87	5.02	4.95	20.77
V.		Central Board of Film Certification							
1.	1178	Establishment of Computerised Management/Upgradation of Infrastructure in CBFC							
2.	1179	Opening of Regional Offices at Hyderabad/ New Delhi/Cuttack/ Guwahati							
3.	1185	Monitoring and modernisation of Certification process							

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
4.	126	Creation of Separate Digital Video Certification Units in Regional Offices	(New Scheme)						
		Total:							
		Position after clubbing Sl. Nos. 1 & 4							
1.	1178 & 1	Establishment of Computerised Management/ Upgradation of Infrastructure in CBFC		0.51	0.73	0.82	0.72	0.72	3.50
2.	1179	Opening of Regional Offices at Hyderabad/ New Delhi/Cuttack/ Guwahati		0.50	0.70	0.85	0.95	1.00	4.00
3.	1185	Monitoring and modernisation of Certification process		0.60	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	5.00
		Total:		1.61	2.53	2.77	2.77	2.82	12.50
VI.		National Film Development Corporation Ltd.							
1.	127	Film Production in various regional languages (Grant-in-aid to NFDC)	(New Scheme)	4.00	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	30.0
2.		Equity participation	(New Scheme)	0.10	8.00	8.13	0.00	0.00	16.23
		Total:		4.10	14.50	14.63	6.50	6.50	46.23
		(No Clubbing)							
VII.		Film and Television Institute of India, Pune (Grant in Aid)							
1.	1186	HRD Aspects/Scholarship/ Exchange Programme							
2.	1188	Upgradation and Modernisation							
3.	128	Global Film School	(New Scheme)						
4.		Setting up of Captive TV Channel	Dropped Scheme but again proposed						
5.		Setting up of Community Radio Station	Dropped Scheme but again proposed						
		Total:							

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
		Position after clubbing Sl. No. 1, 2, 4 & 5							
1.		Grant in Aid to Film & Television Institute of India		6.20	10.64	9.35	7.45	3.67	37.31
2.		Global Film School		0.01	3.50	23.50	18.50	6.49	52.00
		Total:		6.21	14.14	32.85	25.95	10.16	89.31
VII.		Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute of India, Kolkata (Grant-in- Aid)							
1.	1184	Training and Skill Development							
2.	1187	HRD Aspects/Scholarship/ Exchange Programme	To be merged with Scheme No. 6						
3.	1192	Computerisation and Modernisation							
4.	129	Department of Production Management in Films and Television	(New Scheme)						
5.	130	Department of Animation and Electronic Imaging	(New Scheme)						
6.	131	Scholarship, student/faculty exchange programme	(New Scheme)						
7.		Captive TV software production centre	Dropped scheme but again proposed						
8.		Community Radio Station	Dropped scheme but again proposed						
		Total							
		Position after clubbing Sl. Nos. 1 to 8							
1.		Grant in Aid to Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute of India, Kolkata		7.77	11.60	12.33	16.10	12.20	60.00
		Total:		7.77	11.60	12.33	16.10	12.20	60.00
IX.		Main Secretariat Scheme (Film Wing)							
1.	1194	Participation in Film Market in India and Abroad		2.20	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.20	11.00

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
2.	132	Setting up of National Centre of excellence for animation, Gaming and Special effects	(New Scheme)	0.10	3.50	17.71	17.71	12.98	52.00
		No Clubbing Suggested							
		Total:		2.30	5.70	19.91	19.91	15.18	63.00
		Total Films Sector		40.69	97.14	119.93	107.40	84.84	450.00
C.		Broadcasting Sector							
I.		All India Radio							
		Continuing Schemes							
1.	1203	J&K Special package		4.16	9.54	4.00	4.00	4.00	25.70
2.	1205	Expansion of MW Services		1.87	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
3.	1206	Expansion of FM Services		32.74	60.00	42.26	45.00	0.00	180.00
4.	1207	Digitalisation of Production Facilities		4.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00
5.	1208	Automation of Studio Facilities & Miscl. Schemes		43.10	40.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	83.10
6.	1213	North East Special Package		25.00	60.00	45.00	15.00	5.00	150.00
7.	1215	Accommodation for staff		10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00
		Total of Continuing schemes		120.87	181.67	91.26	64.00	9.00	466.80
		New Schemes							
8.	1220	Software Acquisition (AIR News)*		92.41	7.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
9.	133	Digitalisation of transmitters, studios, connectivity and DTH channel (with following sub-schemes)	(New Scheme)	4.00	98.20	295.00	307.00	310.00	1014.20
		(a) MW DRM Transmitters							
		(i) Replacement of old MW Transmitters by new DRM MW Transmitters at Existing Stations							
		(ii) Upgrading and Provision of MW DRM Tr. with Captive Power Plant							
		(iii) Replacement of 6 Nos. 10 KW MW Mobile by MW DRM Transmitters							
		(iv) Conversion of Existing DRM compatible MW Tr. to DRM							

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
		(b) FM DRM + Transmitters							
		(i) Border Area/TV Site							
		(ii) Replacement of FM Transmitters by higher power at Existing Stations							
		(iii) New FM							
		(iv) Provision of 100 Nos of 100 Watt new FM Transmitters							
		(c) SW DRM TRs.							
		Regional New							
		(d) Studios							
		(i) Replacement							
		(ii) New Proposals							
		(iii) News Room Automation							
		(e) Digital Connectivity							
		(i) Replacement of STL (Studio Transmitters Link)							
		(ii) New proposals of CES (Control Exit Station) STL, DSNG (Digital Satellite News Gathering)							
		(iii) Provision of C-Band RNT							
		(f) Augmentation of DTH Channel							
10.	134	Strengthening of External services by Digital	(New Scheme)	1.71	7.29	1.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
		Conversion of External Services SW Trs To DRM							
11.	135	E-Governance, training, Commonwealth Games, Resources, Security, Adtl. Office accommodation Staff Quarters etc.	(New Scheme)	0.06	2.00	55.00	32.00	7.94	97.00
		(a) E-Governance and up gradation of IT facilities							
		(b) Augmentation of STI (T) and STI (P) including regional training institutes							

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
		(c) Strengthening of security measures							
		(d) Strengthening of AIR Resources and Marketing Wing							
		(e) Improvement of Facility at Existing Centre							
		(f) Diesel Generator for Coastal Area Tr. and IVRS for Disaster Management							
		(g) Addl. Office Accommodation							
		(h) Welfare activity and Staff Quarters							
		(i) Unforeseen schemes							
12.	136	New Technology and Science and Technology (R&D)	(New Scheme)	3.30	3.01	5.71	7.00	0.98	20.00
		(a) Multimedia Broadcasting in Satellite and Terrestrial Board							
		(b) Web casting Pod Casting							
		(c) Research and Development							
		Total of New Schemes		101.48	118.09	356.71	346.00	318.92	1241.20
		* Earlier continuing schemes but now showing as new scheme							
		Total of All India Radio		222.35	299.76	447.97	410.00	327.92	1708.00
II.		Doordarshan							
		Continuing Schemes							
1.	1225	J&K Special Plan		74.26	75.68	55.00	55.00	54.23	314.17
2.	1230	Digitalisation & Modernisation of production facilities (Studio/OS)		77.82	85.83	1.35	0.00	0.00	165.00
3.	1237	North East Special Package		54.83	60.00	55.00	25.00	25.00	219.83
4.	1241	DTH		9.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.00
5.	1242	HDTV		13.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00
6.	1245	Other spill over X Plan approved scheme (Earlier approved as Accommodation for staff, augmentation infrastructure & Security)		183.00	102.75	9.25	0.00	0.00	295.00

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
		(a) Accommodation for staff, augmentation of infrastructure and security							
		(b) Automation of existing studio facility							
		(c) Replacement of existing production equipment (Studio/OB) due to fault/aging/obsolescence etc.							
		(d) New Production Facilities 9 nos. (2 nos. completed, 7 nos. under installation)							
		(e) Permanent setup of HPTs – 7 locations							
		(f) Expansion of terrestrial coverage by existing transmitters as well as establishment of new transmitters in respect of DD-I							
		(g) Expansion of terrestrial coverage by upgradation of existing transmitters as well as establishment of new transmitters in respect of DD-II							
		(h) Automation of Transmitters (LPTs & VLPTs)							
		(i) Replacement of existing transmitters due to fault/aging/obsolescence etc.							
		(j) DTT [Broadcasting to handheld (DVB-H)]							
		(k) Satellite Related Schemes (Digitalisation & Modernisation of Satellite Broadcasting Equipment, Replacement of existing satellite broadcasting equipment due to fault/aging/obsolescence etc. New Satellite Broadcast equipment							
7.	1249	Software acquisition/production (Normal & Misc.)		60.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00
		Total of Continuing schemes		472.41	325.76	120.60	80.00	79.23	1078.00

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
		New Schemes							
1.	138	Digitalisation of transmitters (with following components)	(New Scheme)	2.10	51.40	117.50	87.50	99.50	358.00
		(a) Digitalization of Transmitter							
		(b) Modernisation, Augmentation and replacement of transmitters equipments							
		(c) Disaster management emergency requirement							
2.	139	Commonwealth Games (No outlay proposed for XI Plan as outlay for the scheme is being procured separately from Planning Commission)	(New Scheme)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	1230	Studio digitalisation : Digitalisation, Augmentation, Replacement of Studio/OB Equipments		2.20	50.80	194.00	176.00	138.00	561.00
		(a) Digitalization of Studio							
		(b) Digitalization, Augmentation and replacement of Studio equipments							
		(c) E-Governance IT related Schemes							
		(d) R&D and Training							
4.	1241	DTH: Modernisation, Aug., Replacement of Satellite Broadcast Equipment (with following components)		5.95	30.00	75.00	55.00	44.05	210.00
		(a) DTH							
		(b) Digitalization, Augmentation and replacement of satellite broadcast equipments							
5.	1242	HDTV		1.00	20.00	55.00	47.00	42.00	165.00
6.	1245	Staff Quarters, other miscl. Works		0.10	0.90	30.00	30.00	14.00	75.00
7.	1249	Software acquisition/production (Normal & Miscl.) (with following components)		27.11	110.00	110.00	110.00	127.89	485.00
		(a) Indian Classics							
		(b) DD Urdu							
		(c) DD News							

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
		(d) RLSS							
		(e) DD Archive							
		(f) DD India							
		(g) DD Bharti							
		(h) North east satellite service							
		(i) Other Misc. software Schemes							
		Total of New Schemes		38.46	263.10	581.50	505.50	465.44	1854.00
		Total of Doordarhan		510.87	588.86	702.10	585.50	544.67	2932.00
		Total: Prasar Bharti		733.22	888.62	1150.07	995.50	872.59	4640.00
		Main Sectt. (Broadcasting Sector) Schemes							
1.	1250	Electronic Media Monitoring Centre (EMMC)		2.90	7.85	2.00	2.00	2.00	16.75
2.	1251	Private FM Radio (Phase II)		2.50	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.50
3.	142	International Channel	(New Scheme)	0.97	5.00	31.33	31.33	31.37	100.00
4.		IEC activities for Community Radio	(New Scheme)	0.55	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	3.75
		Total:		6.92	15.65	34.13	34.13	34.17	125.00
		Total: Broadcasting Sector		740.14	904.27	1184.20	1029.63	906.76	4765.00
		Total : Ministry of I&B		837.67	1072.00	1370.37	1203.60	1045.36	5529.00
		DBS		837.67	1072.00	1370.37	1203.60	1045.36	5529.00
		IEBR		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING
(Plan Coordination Cell)

Subject:— Approved Annual Plan 2008-09 — Regarding

The Annual Plan 2008-09 in respect of Ministry of I&B has been fixed at Rs. 700.00 crores (Gross Budgetary Support) by the Planning Commission. The Sectorial break-up has been approved as under:—

(Figures in crores of Rupees)

Sl. No.	Sector	GBS	IEBR	Total
1.	Information sector	50.00	0.00	50.00
2.	Film Sector	67.00	0.00	67.00
3.	Broadcasting Sector	484.00	0.00	484.00
4.	Commonwealth Games & Related Programmes	99.00	0.00	99.00
	Total:	700.00	0.00	700.00

2. The approved Media Unit-Wise allocation of Annual Plan 2008-09, duly signed by the representatives of the Ministry of I & B and Planning Commission and the Scheme-wise break-up shown in Annexure II are sent herewith. It may be noted that many new schemes have been introduced in Annual Plan 2008-09. Mere inclusion of the schemes in the Annual Plan does not mean formal approval. Before incurring expenditure out of Plan budget, the following steps should be completed:

- (i) In respect of the new schemes introduced in Annual Plan 2008-09, necessary "in-principle" approval of the Planning Commission should be obtained latest by 31.03.2008. The total requirement of funds for Eleventh Plan in respect of the new schemes should be assessed and indicated while seeking such "in principle" approval.
- (ii) Necessary approval of SFC/EFC should be obtained at the earliest so that the implementation starts in time.

2.1 Relevant orders in this regard are contained under Rule 18 of the DFPRs, 1978 and other instructions in this regard.

3. All the Media Units/Organizations should incur expenditure of an amount exceeding 2-3% of their Budget for initiatives relating to furthering the use of Information Technology, including training, acquisition of hardware, software as well as development and maintenance of software. Media Units/Organizations are, therefore, requested to work out Action Plan for IT and forward the same to the concerned Administrative Divisions in the Ministry with a copy to Plan Coordination

Cell latest by 15.3.2008. The progress in this regard will be monitored by the Planning Commission through the Half Yearly Performance Review reports. To facilitate monitoring of progress made in this regard, schematic break up of the outlays allocated for IT may be maintained/shown separately in the HPRs to be submitted in prescribed proforma at the end of each half-year.

4. As Heads of Departments/Media Units are aware, instructions have been repeatedly circulated to ensure phased and balanced Plan expenditure. In this connection their attention is drawn to Ministry of Finance guidelines that only 1/3rd of the Annual allocation can be spent in the last quarter of the financial year and reiterated to ensure that expenditure during 2008-09 is evenly spread over the financial year and release/expenditure are closely monitored. This will also help in monitoring the progress of outcomes of Plan expenditure in Half Yearly Performance Review (HPR) for which meetings are held in Planning Commission. All concerned are cautioned to take timely SFC/EFC approval of Annual Plan 2008-09 and ensure timely achievement of the physical and financial targets of Annual Plan 2008-09. **Delay/failure on this account will be viewed seriously.**

5. Head of Departments/Media Units are also aware of the instructions relating to Outcome Budget 2008-09 which should be finalized quickly and scrupulously monitored and implemented.

Encl.: As above

sd/-
(H P SHARMA)
Under Secretary (EA)

Heads of All Media Units/Organisations [As per list attached]
Ministry of I&B ID No. 4/64/2007-PC (Vol. II), dated 13/02/2008

Copy forwarded to:—

1. PS to MIB/PS to MSIB
2. Sr. PPS to Secretary (I&B)/PPS to AS/PPS to AS&FA.
3. JS(P&A)/JS(B)/JS(F)/Economic Adviser.
4. All Directors/Deputy Secretaries
5. All Under Secretaries/Desk Officers/Section Officers, Administrative Sections with the request to furnish Head-wise details of Plan allocation to SO. B & A Section immediately latest by today evening.
6. Technical Director, NIC for putting on the Ministry of I & B's website (along with soft copy).

sd/-
(H P SHARMA)
Under Secretary (EA)

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

Approved Annual Plan 2008-09

Media Unit-wise Position

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	Name of the Media units	Annual Plan 2007-08 (BE)			Outlay Earmar- ked for North- East 2007-08 (RE)	Annual Plan 2007-08 (RE)			Outlay Earmar- ked for North- East 2008-09 (BE)	Annual Plan 2008-09 (BE)			
		GBS (3)	IEBR (4)	Total (5)		GBS (7)	IEBR (8)	Total (9)		GBS (11)	IEBR (12)	Total (13)	
A	Central Sector Scheme												
(1)	(2)												
I	Information Sector												
1.	PIB	10.13	0.00	10.13		9.43	0.00	9.43	0.01		15.00	0.00	15.00
2.	Publication Division	0.05	0.00	0.05		0.88	0.00	0.88			0.49	0.00	0.49
3.	DAVP	26.01	0.00	26.01		18.41	0.00	18.41	2.60		21.76	0.00	21.76
4.	IIMC	0.10	0.00	0.10		0.01	0.00	0.01			1.00	0.00	1.00
5.	Photo Division	0.02	0.00	0.02		0.55	0.00	0.55			0.55	0.00	0.55
6.	DFP	0.12	0.00	0.12		0.44	0.00	0.44			2.00	0.00	2.00
7.	Song & Drama Division	4.00	0.00	4.00		4.00	0.00	4.00	0.40		4.00	0.00	4.00
8.	RR & TD	0.02	0.00	0.02		0.19	0.00	0.19			1.00	0.00	1.00
9.	RNI	0.02	0.00	0.02		0.06	0.00	0.06			0.20	0.00	0.20

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
	Main Sectt. (Information Wing) Schemes												
10.	Construction of Soodna Bhawan (Phase IV)	1.00	0.00	1.00		0.95	0.00	0.95		0.00	0.00	0.00	
11.	Construction of Soodna Bhawan (Phase V)	1.00	0.00	1.00		1.00	0.00	1.00		3.53	0.00	3.53	
12.	Economic Analysis of Growth Initiatives	0.08	0.00	0.08		0.08	0.00	0.08		0.28	0.00	0.28	
13.	Trg. For HRD	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.19	0.00	0.19	
	Information Sector (I) : Total:	42.55	0.00	42.55		36.00	0.00	36.00	3.01	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.40
II	Film Sector												
1.	Films Division	9.64	0.00	9.64		6.15	0.00	6.15	0.01	16.00	0.00	16.00	
2.	NFAI	1.01	0.00	1.01		1.01	0.00	1.01		3.00	0.00	3.00	
3.	DFEF	7.23	0.00	7.23		6.63	0.00	6.63		8.30	0.00	8.30	
4.	CFSI	2.71	0.00	2.71		2.71	0.00	2.71		4.00	0.00	4.00	
5.	CBFC	2.01	0.00	2.01		1.12	0.00	1.12		2.00	0.00	2.00	
6.	National Film Development Corporation	3.10	0.00	3.10		0.10	0.00	0.10		14.50	0.00	14.50	
7.	FTIL, Pune	6.21	0.00	6.21		6.21	0.00	6.21		8.00	0.00	8.00	
8.	SRFTI, Kolkata	7.77	0.00	7.77		3.77	0.00	3.77		8.00	0.00	8.00	
	Main Sectt. (Film Wing) Schemes												
9.	Participation in Film Market in India & Abroad	2.20	0.00	2.20		2.20	0.00	2.20		2.20	0.00	2.20	
10.	Setting up of National Centre of Excellence for Animation, Gaming and Special effects	0.10	0.00	0.10		0.10	0.00	0.10		1.00	0.00	1.00	
	Film Sector (II) : Total:	41.98	0.00	41.98		30.00	0.00	30.00	0.01	67.00	0.00	67.00	

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
III	Broadcasting Sector												
1.	All India Radio	78.95	0.00	78.95	25.00	67.56	0.00	67.56	5.00	195.00	0.00	195.00	39.03
2.	Doordarshan	306.64	0.00	306.64	40.00	262.33	0.00	262.33	55.00	280.00	0.00	280.00	28.53
	Total: Prasar Bharti	385.59	0.00	385.59	65.00	329.89	0.00	329.89	60.00	475.00	0.00	475.00	67.56
	Main Sectt. (Broadcasting Sector) Schemes												
1.	Electronic Media Monitoring Centre (EMMC)	2.90	0.00	2.90		2.90	0.00	2.90		7.50	0.00	7.50	
2.	Private FM Radio	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00		0.10	0.00	0.10	
3.	International Channel	0.97	0.00	0.97		0.01	0.00	0.01		1.00	0.00	1.00	
4.	IEC activities for Community Radio	0.01	0.00	0.01		0.20	0.00	0.20		0.40	0.00	0.40	
	Total: Broadcasting Sector (III)	390.47	0.00	390.47	65.00	334.00	0.00	334.00	60.00	484.00	0.00	484.00	67.56
IV	Commonwealth Games and Related Programmes												
	Total M/o I & B	475.00	0.00	475.00	65.00	400.00	0.00	400.00	63.02	700.00	0.00	700.00	67.96
	DBS	475.00	0.00	475.00	65.00	400.00	0.00	400.00	63.02	700.00	0.00	700.00	67.96
	IEBR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Ministry/Department : Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

ANNUAL PLAN 2008-09

Rs. in crore

S.No.	Name of the Media units		
(A)	Central Sector Schemes	Nature of the scheme	Approved Outlay for Annual Plan 2008-09
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
A	Information Sector		
	Press Information Bureau		
1.	Setting up of the National Press Centre at New Delhi		4.37
2.	Media Outreach Programmes (Sl. Nos. 2 to 6)	(New Scheme)	9.60
3.	Publicity for Special Events (Newly proposed Scheme)	(New Scheme)	1.03
	Total:		15.00
II.	Publications Division		
1.	Modernisation of Publications Division	(New Scheme)	0.43
2.	Modernisation of Employment News	(New Scheme)	0.06
	Total :		0.49
III.	Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity		
1.	Development Publicity Programme: Conception and Dissemination		19.09
2.	Modernisation of DAVP	(New Scheme)	2.67
	Total:		21.76
IV.	Indian Institute of Mass Communication		
	(Grant-in-Aid)		
1.	Converting IIMC into International Media University	(New Scheme)	1.00
	Total:		1.00
V.	Photo Division		
1.	National Centre of Photography	(New Scheme)	0.51
2.	Special Drive for N.E., J&K, A&N Islands, Lakshadweep	(New Scheme)	0.04
	Total:		0.55
VI.	Directorate of Field Publicity		
1.	Conducted Tours/Skill Upgradation	(New Scheme)	0.49
2.	Modernisation and Updgradation of Hardware & Software at Regional Officers and Field Publicity Offices of DEP	(New Scheme)	1.51
	Total:		2.00
VII.	Song & Drama Division		
1.	Live Arts & Culture for rural India — Restructured from ICT Scheme	(New Scheme)	4.00
	Total:		4.00

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
VIII.	Research, Reference and Training Division		
1.	Research, Reference and Media Awards	(New Scheme)	1.00
	Total:		1.00
IX.	Registrar of Newspapers for India		
1.	Strengthening of RNI	(New Scheme)	0.20
	Total:		0.20
X.	Main Secretariat schemes		
1.	Construction of Sochna Bhawan (Phase IV) (Completed)		0.00
2.	Construction of Sochna Bhawan (Phase V)	(New Scheme)	3.53
3.	Economic Analysis of Growth Initiatives	(New Scheme)	0.28
4.	Training for Human Resources Development in Institutions located abroad with In-service Training for IIS Officers	Dropped/ Transferred to Non-Plan but again proposed	0.19
	Total:		4.00
	Total: Information Sector		50.00
B	Film Sector		
I.	Films Division		
1.	International Documentary, Short & Animation Film Festival		3.00
2.	Museum of Moving Images (MOMI)		5.00
3.	Webcasting and Digitalisation of ED Films		3.00
4.	Production of documentary films for North-East Region and J&K	(New Scheme)	5.00
	Total:		16.00
II.	National Film Archives of India		
1.	Acquisition and Exhibition of Archival Films		3.00
	Total		3.00
III.	Directorate of Film Festivals		
1.	Film Festival Complex — Alteration and additions		4.00
2.	Export Promotion through Film Festivals		4.00
3.	Upgradation of Print Unit	(New Scheme)	0.30
	Total:		8.30
IV.	Children's Film Society, India		
	(Grant-in-Aid)		
1.	Grant-in-Aid to CFSI		4.00
	Total:		4.00
V.	Central Board of Film Certification		
1.	Establishment of Computerised Management/Upgradation of Infrastructure in CBFC		0.58
2.	Opening of Regional Offices at Hyderabad/New Delhi/Cuttack/Guwahati		0.56

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
3.	Monitoring and modernisation of Certification process		0.86
	Total:		2.00
VI.	National Film Development Corporation Ltd.		
1.	Film production in various regional languages	(New Scheme)	6.50
2.	Equity participation	(New Scheme)	8.00
	Total		14.50
VII.	Film and Television Institute of India, Pune		
	(Grant-in-Aid)		
1.	Grant-in-Aid to Film & Television Institute of India		5.44
2.	Global Film School	(New Scheme)	2.56
	Total:		8.00
VIII.	Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute of India, Kolkata		
	(Grant-in-Aid)		
1.	Grant-in-Aid to Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute of India, Kolkata		8.00
	Total:		8.00
IX.	Main Secretariat Scheme (Film Wing)		
1.	Participation in Film Market in India and Abroad		2.20
2.	Setting up of National Centre of Excellence for Animation, Gaming and Special Effects	(New Scheme)	1.00
	Total:		3.20
	Total Film Sector		67.00
C	Broadcasting Sector		
I.	All India Radio		
	Continuing schemes		
1.	J&K Special Package		6.21
2.	Expansion of MW Services		0.08
3.	Expansion of FM Services		39.03
4.	Digitalisation of Production Facilities		1.30
5.	Automation of Studio Facilities & Misc. Schemes		26.02
6.	North-East Special Package		39.03
7.	Accommodation for staff		6.51
	Total of Continuing schemes		118.18
	New Schemes		
8.	Software Acquisition (AIR News)*		4.94
9.	Digitalisation of transmitters, studios, connectivity and DTH channel (with following sub-schemes)	(New Scheme)	63.88
	(a) MW DRM Transmitters		
	(i) Replacement of old MW Transmitters by new DRM MW Transmitters at Existing Stations		

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	(ii) Upgrading and Provision of MW DRM Tr. With Captive Power Plant		
	(iii) Replacement of 6 Nos. 10 KW MW Mobile by MW DRM Transmitters		
	(iv) Conversion of Existing DRM compatible MW Tr. to DRM		
	(b) FM DRM + Transmitters		
	(i) Border Area/TV Site		
	(ii) Replacement of FM Transmitters by higher power at Existing Stations		
	(iii) New FM		
	(iv) Provision of 100 Nos. of 100 Watt new FM Transmitters		
	(c) SW DRM Trs.		
	Regional New		
	(d) Studios		
	(i) Replacement		
	(ii) New Proposals		
	(iii) News Room Automation		
	(e) Digital Connectivity		
	(i) Replacement of STL (Studio Transmitter Link)		
	(ii) New proposals of CES (Capital Earth Station), STL, DSNG (Digital Satellite News Gathering)		
	(iii) Provision of C-Band RNT		
	(f) Augmentation of DTH Channel		
10	Strengthening of External services by Digital	(New Scheme)	4.74
	Conversion of External Services SW Trs. to DRM		
11	E-Governance, training, Commonwealth Games, Resources, security, Addl. Office accommodation Staff Quarters etc.	(New Scheme)	1.30
	(a) E-Governance and upgradation of IT facilities		
	(b) Augmentation of STI (T) and STI (P) including regional training institutes		
	(c) Strengthening of security measures		
	(d) Strengthening of AIR Resources and Marketing Wing		
	(e) Improvement of Facility at Existing Center		
	(f) Diesel Generator for Coastal Area Tr. and IVRS for Disaster Management		
	(g) Addl. Office Accommodation		
	(h) Welfare activity and Staff Quarters		
	(i) Unforeseen schemes		
12	New Technology and Science and Technology (R&D)	(New Scheme)	1.96
	(a) Multimedia Broadcasting in Satellite and Terrestrial Mode		

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	(b) Web casting Pod Casting		
	(c) Research and Development		
	Total of New Schemes		76.82
	Total of All India Radio		195.00
II.	Doordarshan		
	Continuing schemes		
1.	J&K Special Plan		35.99
2.	Digitalisation & Modernisation of production facilities (Studio/OB)		40.81
3.	North-East Special Package		28.53
4.	DTH		0.00
5.	HDTV		0.71
6.	Other spill over X Plan approved scheme (Earlier approved as Accommodation for staff, augmentation of infrastructure & Security)		48.86
	(a) Accommodation for staff, augmentation of infrastructure and security		
	(b) Automation of existing studio facility		
	(c) Replacement of existing production equipment (Studio/OB) due to fault/aging/obsolescence etc.		
	(d) New Production Facilities 9 Nos. (2 Nos. completed, 7 Nos. under installation)		
	(e) Permanent set up of HPTs – 7 locations		
	(f) Expansion of terrestrial coverage by existing transmitters as well as establishment of new transmitters in respect of DD-I		
	(g) Expansion of terrestrial coverage by upgradation of existing transmitters as well as establishment of new transmitters in respect of DD-II		
	(h) Automation of Transmitters (LPTs & VLPTs)		
	(i) Replacement of existing transmitters due to fault/aging/obsolescence etc.		
	(j) DTT [Broadcasting to handheld (DVB-H)]		
	(k) Satellite Related Schemes (Digitalisation & Modernisation of Satellite Broadcast Equipment, Replacement of existing satellite broadcast equipment due to fault/aging/obsolescence etc. New Satellite Broadcast Equipment		
7.	Software acquisition/production (Normal & Misc.)		0.00
	Total of Continuing schemes		154.90
	New Schemes		
1.	Digitalisation of transmitters (with following components)	(New Scheme)	24.44
	(a) Digitalization of Transmitter		
	(b) Modernisation, Augmentation and replacement of transmitters equipments		

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	(c) Disaster management, emergency requirement		
2.	Studio Digitalisation : Digitalisation, Augmentation, Replacement of Studio/OB Equipments		24.16
	(a) Digitalization of Studio		
	(b) Digitalization, Augmentation and replacement of studio equipments		
	(c) E-Governance, IT related Schemes		
	(d) R&D and Training		
3.	DTH: Modernisation, Aug., Replacement of Satellite Broadcast Equipment (with following components)		14.26
	(a) DTH		
	(b) Digitalization, Augmentation and Replacement of satellite broadcast equipments		
4.	HDTV		9.51
5.	Staff Quarters, other miscl. Works		0.43
6.	Software Acquisition/Production (Normal & Miscl.) (with following components)		52.30
	(a) Indian Classics		
	(b) DD Urdu		
	(c) DD News		
	(d) RLSS		
	(e) DD Archive		
	(f) DD India		
	(g) DD Bharati		
	(h) North East satellite service		
	(i) Other Misc. software Schemes		
	Total of New Schemes		125.10
	Total of Doordarshan		280.00
	Total: Prasar Bharati		475.00
	Main Sectt. (Broadcasting Sector) Schemes		
1.	Electronic Media Monitoring Centre (EMMC)		7.50
2.	Private FM Radio (Phase II)		0.10
3.	International Channel	(New Scheme)	1.00
4.	IEC activities for Community Radio	(New Scheme)	0.40
	Total:		9.00
	Total: Broadcasting Sector		484.00
D	Commonwealth Games ant Related Programmes		99.00
	Total: Ministry of I&B		700.00
	DBS		700.00
	IEBR		0.00

ANNEXURE C

Schemes Dropped by Planning Commission and Accepted by Ministry

Rupees in crore

Sl. No	PC Code	Name of the Scheme	2007-08				Remarks
			GBS	IEBR	EAP	Outlay	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	(A)	Continuing scheme					
		INFORMATION SECTOR					
		Press Information Bureau					
1.	1155	Construction of building for PIB offices in the North-East and where land has been allotted by the Government	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
2.		Publications Division					
3.	1156	Publication Programme of DPD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
		Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity					
		Indian Institute of Mass Communication					
4.	1158	Building and Housing Project	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
5.	1159	Research & Evaluation Studies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
6.	1160	Modernisation and Expansion of facilities for electronic/print/Radio & TV Journalism	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
7.	1161	Collaboration with regional centres of learning	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
		Photo Division					
8.	1162	Modernisation of Photo Division	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
		Directorate of Field Publicity					
9.	1163	Purchase of films/cassettes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
10.	1164	Modernisation and upgradation of Capital Stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
		Song & Drama Division					
11.	1165	Information, Communication, Technology (ICT) activities in Hilly/Tribal/Desert/Sensitive & Border areas	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
12.	1169	Training for Human Resource Development	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
		Sub-total Information continuing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
		Films Sector					
		Films Division					

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
13.	1171	Modernisation and Replacement of obsolete equipment of Films Division	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
		Central Board of Film Certification					
14.	1180	(a) Captive TV Channel Schemes (FTIL, Pune)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
15.	1181	(b) Setting up of Community Radio (FTIL, Pune)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
16.	1182	(c) Captive TV Channel Schemes (SRFTL, Kolkata)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
17.	1183	(d) Setting up of Community Radio (SRFTL, Kolkata)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
18.	1190	(e) Construction of Phase-II NFAI building (NFAI)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
19.	1195	Grant-in-Aid to FFSl & NGOs engaged in anti-piracy work (Main Sectt.)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
		Sub-total Film continuing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
		Broadcasting Sector (Prasar Bharati)					
		All India Radio					
		Continuing Schemes					
20.	1196	(a) Expansion of MW services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (prior to 10th plan)
21.	1197	(b) Expansion of FM services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (prior to 10th plan)
22.	1198	(c) Staff Quarters & Office accommodation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (prior to 10th plan)
23.	1199	(d) Expansion of SW services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (prior to 10th plan)
24.	1200	(e) Archives	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (prior to 10th plan)
28.	1201	(f) Misc. Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (prior to 10th plan)
26.	1202	(g) Miscellaneous Schemes (including replacement of Amplifiers, CD Players, microphones other unforeseen replacement etc.)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (prior to 10th plan)
27.	1204	(i) Establishment Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
		New Schemes					
28.	1214	(b) New Technologies like Internet Radio Broadcasting, Digital B'casting etc.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (Unapproved)
29.	1216	(c) Establishment Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (Unapproved)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
30.	1217	(d) Strengthening & Upgradation of Training facilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (Unapproved)
31.	1218	(e) Security measures etc.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (Unapproved)
32.	1219	(f) Improvement of facilities etc.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (Unapproved)
		Misc. Charges					
		Doordarshan					
		Continuing Schemes					
33.	1221	(a) Terrestrial Transmitters	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (prior to 10th plan)
34.	1222	(b) Production facilities (Studio/OB)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (prior to 10th plan)
35.	1223	(c) Satellite Broadcast equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (prior to 10th plan)
36.	1224	(d) Establishment Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (prior to 10th plan)
37.	1226	(f) Revenue Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped
		Upgradation/Expansion schemes					
		Modernisation schemes					
38.	1240	(d) DTT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (Unapproved)
39.	1243	(g) IT enabled multimedia	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (Unapproved)
40.	1244	(h) Research & Development/ Marketing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (Unapproved)
41.	1246	(j) Augmentation of Training facilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (Unapproved)
42.	1247	(k) Establishment of service centres/ workshops for digital equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (Unapproved)
43.	1248	(l) Establishment (CCW & Zonal offices) & Arbitration	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Dropped (Unapproved)

Recommendation (Para No. 22)

The Films Division (FD) has played a stellar role in disseminating information and messages of social importance for decades together. With the advent of the television, the role of Films Division has considerably diminished. The Committee note that the Films Division was allocated a sum of Rs. 4.62 crore as BE for the year 2007-08. This was enhanced to Rs. 5.13 crore at the RE stage. The actual expenditure upto 31 January, 2008 was Rs. 2.86 crore. A sum of Rs. 11.00 crore has been earmarked

as BE for the Films Division for 2008-09. The Committee were, therefore, naturally curious to know whether the Ministry was contemplating assigning some new role to the Organisation in the coming years. The Committee note that the Ministry are planning to utilize the services of FD for developing short, socially relevant messages and for producing documentaries which can be suitably slotted on television. The Committee have also been given to understand that the Films Division has started digitizing its entire stock of audio-visual archives but as of now they cannot be downloaded. The Committee feel that the huge stock of the precious audio-visual archives with the FD ought to be digitised and downloading arrangements be made for an appropriate price in order to create some sort of revenue model for the Organization.

Action Taken by the Government

Though it is a fact that only Rs. 2.86 crore had been expended up to 31 January, 2008, major expenditure occurring during Feb.-Mar., 2008 was due to the following reasons:

The 10th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) was successfully organized from 3rd to 9th February, 2008. Because of this, a major portion of the funds earmarked for this Scheme was utilised in the months of February and March, 2008.

In the Webcasting and Digitalisation Scheme, the Final Grant was Rs. 5.35 crore, whereas BE was Rs. 3.50 crore. During the year, a total of 1,291 films were digitized. Thus, a total of 6,204 films out of the 8,131 films in Films Division's archives have been digitized as on 31 March, 2008. The agency outsourced for the work, submitted the bills during Feb.-March, 2008 and hence, expenditure on this account could be incurred during that period only.

During the Eleventh Plan, a new Scheme namely 'Production of Documentary Films' has been introduced with the objective of giving a boost to the documentary film movement in the country. This Scheme aims to tap the talent available in the private sector as also talented individuals. For this, funds to the tune of Rs. 5.00 crore have been allocated during the current Financial Year.

Further, as the work on finalization of the Scheme *viz.* Museum of Moving Images (MoMI) for which a budget provision of Rs. 5 crore has been made, is proceeding at a rapid pace which includes preparing an organizational structure for the Museum, creation of posts to man the Museum, obtaining EFC approval and ensuring that the physical work

on the Museum begins, it is hoped that the funds earmarked for the year 2008-09 will be utilised in full and physical progress will also be made accordingly.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. H-11013/04/2008-F(A), dated 14.05.2008]

Comments of the Committee

(Please *see* Para No. 23 and 24 of the Chapter I)

Recommendation (Para No. 26)

The Committee note that CFSI was allocated an amount of Rs. 2.71 crore for the year 2007-08. A sum of Rs. 0.45 crore was spent by the Society till 31 January, 2008. Out of the remaining balance, Rs. 2.18 crore were spent between 1 February, 2008 and 15 March, 2008. This virtually last moment release of a major chunk of funds was necessitated by the fact that Rs. 2.00 crore out of BE Rs. 2.71 crore were earmarked for the proposed CFSI Film Complex at Hyderabad, and work on the other activity of CFSI *viz.* Production of Films commenced only after a sum of Rs. 1.95 crore was reappropriated from Film Complex Head to the relevant Head after December, 2007. It has also come to the notice of the Committee that prior to that though target for production of films was fixed, no funds were allocated for the purpose. The Committee find this entire chain of events and actions disconcerting. The Committee cannot but conclude, that this mismanagement had ended up in defeating the very objective for which the Society has been setup.

Action Taken by the Government

At the beginning of the 11th Plan. CFSI's Plan Scheme 'Film Production' was not allocated any sum of money. Therefore, when the State Government of Andhra Pradesh cancelled the allocation of land made in favour of CFSI in December, 2007 and funds were available, the matter of approval of the Scheme 'Film Production' was taken up with Planning Commission. Planning Commission conveyed Its approval on 31.01.2008 for utilization of Rs. 1.95 crore out of this amount towards 'Film Production' and hence the funds could be released only in February, 2008 and hence expenditure had been done subsequent to that.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. H-11013/04/2008-F(A), dated 14.05.2008]

Comments of the Committee

(Please *see* Para No. 30 of the Chapter I)

Recommendation (Para No. 34)

Prasar Bharati came into being on 23 November, 1997 with a mandate to organize and conduct Public Broadcasting Services in India. Even after a decade of its establishment, the Organisation is still in a state of transition in several crucial matters relating to its organizational restructuring, financing and funding patterns, capital and financial restructuring, personnel policy, etc. The Committee have been recommending suitable measures to the Government in regard to these issues from time to time in their Reports. Coming to organisational restructuring, the Committee note that the National Productivity Council has been engaged by Prasar Bharati to go into the matter. The NPC has been asked to expedite its Report. It may be pertinent to mention here that Prasar Bharati has already communicated 10415 vacant posts to the Ministry for filling up and an additional requirement of posts sanctioned for the projects sanctioned is 6799 as per SIU norms. This brings the total number of vacancies in the Organization to 17214. The Committee note that the GoM, which is seized of matters pertaining to Prasar Bharati, having recognized the need for urgently filling up the vacancies has desired the Ministry to work out a comprehensive proposal in consultation with the MoF. However, the comprehensive proposal is stuck in view of the non-receipt of the Report from NPC. The Committee find the entire scenario in a situation of flux with a solution still not in sight. The Ministry should appreciate the problems that Prasar Bharati would be facing in view of such a huge shortage of manpower and till a permanent solution is worked out, some relief ought to be provided to Prasar Bharati immediately, so that it is able to augment its staff strength through some short term measures.

[Para 34 of Chapter-II of Fifty-Fifth Report of Standing Committee on Information Technology (Fourteenth Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken by the Government

As regards filling up of vacant posts in Prasar Bharati, Prasar Bharati is not able to fill up direct recruitment posts as it has not set up recruitment boards for this purpose as laid down in Section 10 (1) of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990. No doubt, Prasar Bharati is facing severe shortage of staff due to which the commissioned Stations/Offices are not fully operational. The requisite staff for new projects has not been sanctioned. However, Stations and offices are being run by redeployment of staff from the existing offices. The matter has

been referred to the Group of Ministers for their consideration and recommendations. The manpower requirement could not be discussed in the meeting of GoM held on 03.04.2008.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 2/6/2008-B (Finance), dated 22.05.2008]

Comments of the Committee

(Please *see* Para No. 42 of the Chapter I)

CHAPTER V

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES ARE OF INTERIM NATURE

Recommendation (Para No. 29)

The National Film Development Corporation aims at promoting new talent and developing the Cinema in India by fostering excellence in concerned fields. The Committee note that the increased cost of film production adversely affected the performance of NFDC leading to a progressive erosion of its paid-up capital of Rs. 14.00 crore to Rs. 28.75 lakh at the end of 2006-07. This resulted in an absolute collapse of the networth of the Company. The Ministry in a bid to revive the Corporation have adopted a two-pronged strategy now. A proposal has been mooted for the Cabinet for conversion of Rs. 19.77 crore of working capital loan from Government of India into equity and infusion of fresh equity or Rs. 16.23 crore. This will increase the equity base of the Corporation to Rs. 50.00 crore. There is another proposal for a one time grant of Rs. 30.00 crore to NFDC for production of 15 films in regional languages over the period of Eleventh Plan. It is expected that after the financial revamping, the Company will be earning a profit of Rs. 7.39 crore and attaining a networth of Rs. 41.26 crore at the end of 2011-12. The Committee have been given to understand that the Cabinet note has been approved by the Minister and is being circulated to the concerned Ministries/ Departments for comments. The NFDC has played a crucial role in promoting the Indian cinema and is still an ideal grooming ground for the budding talent in the Film Industry. The Committee, therefore, appreciate the steps being taken by the Ministry in their bid to revive the Corporation. They further desire that the proposal may be got decided upon expeditiously so that the revival plan of the Corporation commences without any delay.

Action Taken by the Government

As regards the proposal for conversion of Government loan of Rs. 19.77 crore of the National Film Development Corporation into paid-up equity and infusion of fresh equity of Rs. 16.23 crore in two phases of Rs. 8.00 crore in 2008-09 and Rs. 8.23 crore in 2009-10, the Draft Cabinet Note proposing the same has been circulated to the Planning Commission,

Department of Public Enterprises and the Ministry of Finance (D/o Expenditure - PF-II) on 20.3.2008 for comments. While their comments are awaited, the Planning Commission had requested for a presentation on the measures proposed for turning around National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) on 24.4.2008 before giving their comments. Accordingly, a Presentation was made by the Managing Director, NFDC before the Officers of Planning Commission on 21.4.2008 on the Strategic Blue Print to revamp the Corporation and improve its financial performance. The written comments of the Planning Commission and the Department of Expenditure are awaited.

The Plan Scheme of Production of films in various regional languages is a Main Secretariat Scheme of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. It is proposed to produce 15 films in various regional languages to promote new talent and good cinema through the National Film Development Corporation with an investment of Rs. 30 crore during the 11th Plan period. The said Plan Scheme proposing an expenditure of Rs. 30 crore during the 11th Plan period with the annual phasing of expenditure for 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 at Rs. 6.50 crore, Rs. 7.84 crore, Rs. 7.83 crore and Rs. 7.83 crore respectively, was placed before the Standing Finance Committee (SFC) of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting on 21.05.2008 for their consideration. The proposal was considered and appraised by the SFC in their meeting dated 21.05.2008. The Plan Scheme is now under submission for seeking the approval of the Hon'ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting before the same is implemented.

NFDC have exhibited in their strategic blue print that as a result of the above measures they will be able to earn profit after the investment phase of 2008-09 and 2009-2010 on a sustained basis and the balance-sheet position would improve with reversal of the trend of erosion of the Corporation's paid-up capital and consequent improvements in its net-worth position.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 207/3/2008-F(PSU), dated 12.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 30)

The National Film Archives of India was allocated an amount of Rs. 1.01 crore for 2007-08. The same amount was retained at the RE stage and the Committee have been informed that the entire amount has been spent during the year. For the year 2008-09, a sum of Rs. 3.00 crore has been allocated to the Organization. It may be worthwhile to mention that the NFAI had sought an allocation of Rs. 7.50 crore for the year. The

Committee are of the firm opinion that the restoration, acquisition and digitisation of archival works of immense political and cultural importance is a highly time-bound task. Delays of any kind only lead to permanent loss of materials of incalculable heritage value. The Committee have been informed that with the present allocation, hardly 200 films could be processed by NFAI. The Committee, therefore, recommend that in order to enable NFAI to complete its mandated task at the earliest, suitable enhancements in its Plan Outlay should be considered by the Ministry.

Action Taken by the Government

Though Rs. 3 crore have been allocated to NFAI for the Plan Scheme "Acquisition and Exhibition of Archival Films" during the Annual Plan 2008-09, allocation of additional funds may be considered at the stage of Revised Estimates if NFAI is able to utilize the allocation of Rs. 3 crore by September, 2008.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 812/3/2008-F(C), dated 26.05.2008]

Recommendation (Para No. 43)

In the opinion of the Committee, the switchover from Analog Terrestrial to Digital Terrestrial is a technological compulsion and has to be undertaken so that the standards of broadcasting services in the country are maintained at par with the best in the world. It will also ensure compatibility with the networks in other countries for the purpose of feed sharing and broadcasting, more so with our International Channel being in the offing. It goes without saying that the viewers will also benefit immensely from this technology shift with vastly improved quality of transmission. The Committee are, therefore, highly disappointed to observe that no headway could be made in the implementation of this Scheme during the year 2007-08 as the requisite approvals were pending. Keeping in view the tremendous value addition implications of this Scheme, the Committee desire that all necessary approvals should be got expedited by the Ministry and it should steadfastly strive towards the expeditious implementation of this Scheme.

Action Taken by the Government

The DPR and EFC Memo for the Eleventh Plan Scheme of Digitalisation has been examined in the Ministry and Prasar Bharati has been asked to forward their clarification on the comments of Internal Finance Division. The response of Prasar Bharati is awaited. As desired

by Planning Commission, Prasar Bharati has been asked to reformulate the Grand Plan for digitalization of the network of Doordarshan in the light of observations of Planning Commission in the meeting held on 23.04.08.

[Min. of I&B, O.M. No. 2/6/2008-B (Finance), dated 22.05.2008]

NEW DELHI;
27 August, 2008
5 Bhadrapada, 1930 (Saka)

NIKHIL KUMAR,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on
Information Technology.

APPENDIX

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (2008-2009)

MINUTES OF THE SECOND SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee sat on Wednesday, the 27th August, 2008 from 1100 hrs. to 1300 hrs. in Room No. 53, Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Nikhil Kumar — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Abdullakutty
3. Shri Nikhil Kumar Choudhary
4. Shri Sanjay Shamrao Dhotre
5. Shri Ramesh Dube
6. Shri Narahari Mahato
7. Shri Bhubaneshwar Prasad Mehta
8. Shri Lalmani Prasad
9. Shri Tufani Saroj
10. Shri Tathagata Sathpathy

Rajya Sabha

11. Dr. C. P. Thakur
12. Shri A. Vijayaraghvan
13. Shri Rajkumar Dhoot
14. Shri Shyam Benegal

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri P. Sreedharan — *Joint Secretary*
2. Smt. Sudesh Luthra — *Director*
3. Shri P. C. Koul — *Deputy Secretary*
4. Shri D. R. Mohanty — *Under Secretary*

WITNESSES

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY)

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members of the Committee and the representatives of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Information Technology) to the sitting of the Committee.

3. ** ** ** ** ** ** ** **

4. The Chairman thanked the witnesses for appearing before the Committee as well as for furnishing valuable information desired by the Committee.

A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

The witnesses, then, withdrew.

5. The Committee, then, took up the following Draft Reports for consideration and adopted the same:—

(i) ** ** ** ** ** **

(ii) Draft Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Fifty-Fifth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2008-2009)' of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

(iii) ** ** ** ** ** **

* Matters not related to this Report.

(iv) ** ** ** ** ** **

6. The Committee authorised the Chairman to finalise the above Draft Reports and present the same to the House on a date convenient to him.

The Committee, then, adjourned

* Matters not related to this Report.

ANNEXURE

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE
FIFTY-FIFTH REPORT (FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)

[Vide Paragraph No. 5 of Introduction]

- (i) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:

Paragraph Nos.: 1-7, 9-10, 12-19, 21, 23-25, 27, 28, 31-33, 35-42 & 44

Total : 35
Percentage : 79.55

- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Replies of the Government:

Paragraph No.: 11 & 20

Total : 02
Percentage : 4.55

- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration:

Paragraph Nos.: 8, 22, 26 & 34

Total : 04
Percentage : 9.10

- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies are of interim nature:

Paragraph Nos.: 29, 30 & 43

Total : 03
Percentage : 6.82