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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(2009-2010)**

FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

[Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/ Observations of the
Committee contained in their Second Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on
Demands for Grants (2009-10)]

TENTH REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

May, 2010/ Vaisakha, 1932 (Saka)

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Presented to Lok Sabha on _____

Laid in Rajya Sabha on _____



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

May, 2010/ Vaisakha, 1932 (Saka)

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*Not included in the cyclostyled copy of the Report.

**COMPOSITION OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (2009-2010)**

Shri Rao Inderjit Singh - Chairman

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri Nikhil Kumar Choudhary
4. Shri Milind Deora
- *5. Shri Charles Dias
6. Shri Rajen Gohain
7. Smt. Darshana Jardosh
8. Shri Mithilesh Kumar
- **9. Shri Sadashivrao Dadoba Mandlik
10. Shri Inder Singh Namdhari
11. Shri Abdul Rahman
12. Shri Prem Das Rai
- #13. Shri Tufani Saroj
14. Shri Tathagata Satpathy
15. Shri Adhalrao Patil Shivaji
16. Dr. Bholu Singh
17. Shri Dhananjay Singh
18. Shri Sushil Kumar Singh
19. Shri C. Sivasami
20. Smt. M. Vijaya Shanthi
21. Shri Dharmendra Yadav

Rajya Sabha

22. Prof. Alka Balram Kshatriya
- @23. Vacant
24. Shri Jesudas Seelam
25. Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad
26. Shri Prabhat Jha
27. Shri P. Rajeeve
28. Shri Shriram Pal
29. Shri N.R. Govindarajar
30. Shri M.P. Achuthan
31. Shri Rajkumar Dhoot

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri T.K. Mukherjee - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. Sudesh Luthra - Director

** Nominated to Committee w.e.f. 10th September, 2009.

Nominated to Committee w.e.f. 13th October, 2009.

* Nominated to Committee w.e.f. 19th November, 2009.

@ Consequent upon retirement of Shri Dharampal Sabharwal from Rajya Sabha w.e.f. 9th April, 2010.

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Standing Committee on Information Technology (2009-10) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Tenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations of the Committee contained in their Second Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2009-10)' of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

2. The Second Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 16 December, 2009 and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on the same day. The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting furnished their Action Taken Notes on 8 March, 2010.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 4th May, 2010

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

5. An analysis of Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in their Second Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given at *Annexure*.

**New Delhi
May, 2010
Vaisakha, 1932 (Saka)**

**RAO INDERJIT SINGH
Chairman
Standing Committee on
Information Technology**

REPORT

CHAPTER I

This Report of the Standing Committee on Information Technology (2009-10) deals with the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations of the Committee contained in their Second Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2009-10) pertaining to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

2. The Second Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 16 December, 2009 and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on the same day. It contained 29 Recommendations/Observations.

3. Action Taken Notes by the Government in respect of all the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Report have been received from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and these have been categorized as under:

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

Para Nos.

1,2,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,17,18,19,20,22,23,

Total 18

Chapter II

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

Nil

Total Nil

Chapter III

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

Para Nos:- 15,16,27,28

Total 04

Chapter IV

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

Para No:- 3,14,21,24,25,26,29

Total 07

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 by the Government on the Observations /Recommendations contained in Chapter - I and final Action Taken by the Government 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 by the Government on some of their recommendations.

I. FILM SECTOR

Recommendation (Para No. 15)

6. In their Second Report, the Committee while observing under utilization of outlay under Film Sector during the year 2008-09, had desired that the reasons for under utilization of outlay may be probed and all corrective actions taken by the Ministry in respect of the various projects/schemes under Film Sector.

7. The Ministry in their action taken note have submitted as follows:

"The F (PSU) Desk in this Ministry has two Plan Schemes, namely (i) Film Production in various regional languages and (ii) Equity Participation in NFDC". "In the year 2007-08 Rs.3 crore was provided in BE for the Plan Scheme 'Film Production in various regional languages' whereas Rs.10 lakhs was provided for Plan Scheme 'Equity Participation in NFDC'. Since Plan Scheme 'Film Production in various regional languages' could not be approved during the financial year 2007-08, provision of Rs.3 crore in BE was revised to nil at RE stage. Also the provision of Rs.10 lakhs for 'Equity Participation in NFDC' could not be spent as investment in Equity Participation required the approval of the Cabinet and the exercise was taken up by the Ministry but no approval could be obtained.

In the year 2008-09 a provision of Rs.6.50 crore was made in respect of the Plan Scheme 'Film Production in various regional languages' and a provision of Rs.8 crore was made in respect of the plan scheme 'Equity participation in NFDC' at BE stage. While the provision of Rs.6.50 crore for Film Production in various regional languages could be spent during the financial year the BE provision of Rs. 8 crore towards Equity Participation in NFDC was revised to a token provision of Rs.1 lakh as it was decided during this year to refer the case of revival of NFDC to Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises for their consideration and recommendation as the company became sick and approval of the Cabinet to the proposal for equity investment in NFDC was not likely to be obtained during the year.

In the year 2009-2010 so far BE provision of Rs.6.50 crore has been provided for the Plan Scheme 'Film Production in various regional languages' and the entire provision has already been released to NFDC. In respect of plan scheme 'Equity Participation in NFDC' only a token provision of Rs. 1 lakh has been made as it was felt that it may not be possible to get the approval of the Cabinet to the proposal for Equity Participation in NFDC during the current financial year as well."

8. The Committee observe that during the year 2007-08, Rs.10 lakh was provided for the Plan scheme 'Equity Participation in NFDC'. However, the amount could not be spent as the Ministry could not take approval of the Cabinet. Again during the year 2008-09, a provision of Rs.8 crore was made for the above scheme, which was reduced to a token provision of Rs.1 lakh due to the reasons that NFDC became sick and the case for revival of NFDC was referred to the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises for their consideration. The above development re-inforces the views of the Committee that there are problems in implementation of the programme under Film Sector during the year 2008-09. In the opinion of the Committee, the planning and

implementation process need to be synchronized in order to ensure utilization of outlay. The Committee hope that steps will be taken by the Ministry to probe the reasons for under utilization of outlay and all corrective action taken by the Government in respect of various projects/schemes under Film Sector.

II. Museum of Moving Images

Recommendation (Para No. 16)

9. In their previous Report, the Committee while deprecating the delay in implementation of the scheme had desired that adequate steps should be taken by the Ministry to get clearance of the project. The Committee had recommended that definite timelines regarding conceptualization and implementation of the project should be drawn so that Museum of Moving Images is set up within a definite time frame.

10. The Ministry in their action taken notes have stated as follows-

“The proposal for setting up Museum of Moving Images (MOMI) has been considered by the Expenditure Finance Committee in its meeting held on 11.01.2010. The Committee has recommended the proposal for approval of the competent authority, in accordance with the existing guidelines on appraisal/approval of EFC. Timelines regarding implementation of the project have also been drawn up in order to set up the said Museum expeditiously. Broadly, it has been proposed to set up the Museum through National Buildings Construction Corporation Ltd. (NBCC) while the interactive galleries would be set up by National Council of Science Museums (NCSM). Most of the items to be displayed would be procured from the historians, collectors and others through voluntary donation basis for the museum. However, some historical items may have to be purchased. After approval of the EFC, Films Division would enter into a contract with NBCC which is the main executive agency clearly delineating its responsibilities for timely completion of the project including coordination with NCSM and other agencies. ”

11. **The Committee observe that the information furnished in the action taken note in respect of Museum of Moving Images (MoMI) is just reproduction of what had been earlier submitted to the Committee during the course of examination of the Demands for Grants (2009-10). The reply**

furnished by the Ministry is silent about the steps taken to get clearance of the projects and drawing up of definite timelines for implementation of the project. While expressing their displeasure over the delay in implementation of the project, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation for taking expeditious steps for finalizing the scheme so that MoMI is set up within a definite time frame.

III. Content Regulation Mechanism - Broadcasting Regulation and Regulatory Authority

Recommendation (Para No. 27)

12. The Committee had been informed that the Government proposes to put in place the Broadcasting Regulatory Authority of India (BRAI) under an Act of Parliament and a new Content Code to be issued hereunder. The Committee had also been informed that the views of all the State Governments have been solicited on the draft Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill. Having felt that there is an urgent need for a proper monitoring mechanism for broadcasting industry, the Committee had desired the Ministry to complete the process of consultation with all stakeholders in a time bound manner and make earnest efforts to introduce the said Bill in the Parliament expeditiously.

13. The Ministry in their action taken note have submitted as follows:

“The Ministry has been consulting States/UTs on the proposed Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill. So far 18 States and 6 UTs have submitted their comments on the proposed Bill. Ministry has also initiated wide ranging consultations with stakeholders for arriving at a consensus on this issue. The Ministry has already held consultations with Indian Broadcasting Foundation, Multi System Operator (MSO) Alliance, News Broadcasters Association (NBA), Broadcast Editors Association (BEA) and the Cable Operators Federation of India (COFI). To take the process further, a Task Force has been constituted on 27.11.2009 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, I&B with two representatives each from News Broadcasters Association, Indian Broadcasting Foundation and Broadcast Editors Association. The Task Force would interact with different Stakeholders to understand their perspective on the need, scope and jurisdiction, organizational structure, powers and functions of independent Broadcast regulator and issues relating to regulation of content. The Task Force held its first meeting on 29th December 2009 to discuss the

methodology, to identify various interest groups, frequency of meetings etc. The Task Force proposes to furnish its recommendations to the Government at the earliest. This issue has also been discussed in the 27th Conference of the State Information Ministers held on 5th December 2009 at Vigyan Bhawan.”

14. While noting the steps being taken by the Ministry on the proposed Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill, the Committee express displeasure over the tardy progress in the matter. The Ministry after soliciting the views of the State Governments and UTs, have constituted a Task Force to take the process further for consultation with various stakeholders etc. However, no definite timeline has been fixed for submission of findings to the Government. The Committee desire that the process of consultation may be completed in a time bound manner so that the Ministry introduce the proposed Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill in the Parliament expeditiously.

Prasar Bharati Act, 1990

Recommendation (Para No. 28)

15. The Committee had noted that the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 contains provisions for constitution of Parliamentary Committee and Broadcasting Council. However, these provisions have never been put into operation. The Committee were informed that two Committees of Prasar Bharati (Sengupta Committee report dated August 1996 and Narayanmurthy Committee report dated May, 2000) had recommended that there was no need for these provisions in the light of Standing and Consultative Committees of Parliament. Taking note of the fact that the reports of the aforesaid Committees were submitted in the years 1996 and 2000 and since then 13 and 9 years respectively have passed. Even then the Ministry could not take the decision. The Committee, while taking the non-implementation of these provisions seriously particularly when the word `shall' has been used in the legislation had desired that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting should take the final decision on the constitution of these bodies.

16. The Ministry in their action taken note have stated as under:-

“The matter of constitution of Parliamentary Committee and the Broadcasting Council as per the provisions of Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 was placed before

the last GOM but it could not be taken up. In the proposal sent to Cabinet Secretariat by the Ministry for reconstitution of GOM, this issue has been mentioned among others as one of the reasons for continuation of GOM. Since the matter requires high level inter-ministerial deliberations, a final view is proposed to be taken after the reconstitution of GOM and its recommendations on the issue are obtained. Now that the GOM has been reconstituted, the matter will be placed before it for consideration”.

17 The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of the Ministry. Even after two decades since the Prasar Bharati Act. 1990 came into effect, the provisions of the Act regarding constitution of a Parliamentary Committee and Broadcasting Council have not been implemented even when the word `shall' has been used in the legislation. While deploring the delay on the part of the Government, the Committee reiterate their recommendation that a final decision in this regard should be taken without any further delay.

CHAPTER II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Para No. 1)

The Committee observe that as per Demand No. 59 pertaining to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the Budgetary allocation is for a total amount of Rs. 2568.07 crore which include Rs. 800 crore as Plan Outlay and Rs. 1768.07 crore as non-Plan Outlay. The examination of the outlay earmarked under Plan schemes during the first three years of Eleventh Plan reveals that out of the total allocation of Rs. 5,439 crore as approved for Eleventh Plan, the actual utilization during the first two years of Eleventh Plan is just Rs. 822.76 crore i.e. not even 1/5th of the total allocation. Besides under the Plan schemes, there is variation between the proposed outlay, BE and RE during each of the years. During the year 2008-09, Rs.700.00 crore were provided at BE stage against the proposed outlay of Rs.1072.00 crore. The outlay was further reduced to Rs. 600.00 crore at RE stage. Even the reduced outlay could not be utilized and there was under spending to the tune of Rs. 175.34 crore. Again during the year 2009-10, the Ministry has been allocated Rs. 800.00 crore against the proposed allocation of Rs.1466.17 crore. The Committee conclude from the aforesaid scenario that the allocation provided during each year of the Eleventh Plan is less than the proposed outlay. The outlay provided is further reduced at RE stage and even the reduced outlay could not be spent. The Secretary during the course of oral evidence has acknowledged that there have been some slippages in the utilization of allocations. According to the Ministry one of the reasons for under utilisation of funds is non approval of the schemes of the Ministry. The Committee take note of the under utilization of outlay seriously and strongly recommend that all efforts should be made to ensure that financial and physical targets under each of the project/scheme are fully achieved.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

The Ministry notes the recommendations of the Committee and assures that it will continue to sustain its efforts to ensure that financial and physical targets under each of the project / scheme are fully achieved.

[Ministry of I & B O.M. No. 4/18/2009-PC (Vol.V) dated 08.02.2010]

Recommendation (Para No. 2)

During examination of the Demands for Grants of the Ministry, the Committee have been informed that initially the Ministry had formulated 86 schemes. However, at the time of Zero Based Budgeting exercise undertaken by the Planning Commission in May, 2007, the total number of schemes were reduced to 65. The Committee find that out of total 28 on-going schemes, the requisite approval/clearance in respect of 2 schemes viz. National Press Centre under information Sector and Museum of Moving Images under Film Sector is still pending. Further, out of the total 37 new schemes included in the Annual Plan for 2009-10 of the Ministry, 12 schemes are still awaiting requisite approval. These include some important schemes like Converting Indian Institute of Mass Communication into Media University, Setting up of Centre of Excellence for Animation, Gaming and Special Effects, Digitalization of Transmitters, E-Governance, Setting up of Transmitters for Border area of J&K, Global Film School, DTH and Software Acquisition. The representative of the Ministry during the course of oral evidence has acknowledged that the delay in approval processes has resulted in under utilization of funds. The Committee disapprove the way the projects are being planned by the Ministry. There is an urgent need to analyze the position critically and streamline the whole planning process. The Committee strongly recommend that the process of evaluation/restructuring of the schemes and obtaining various clearances etc. should be over before 1st April of the first year of Five Year Plan so that the targets set under the different schemes are realistically achieved. The Committee urge that atleast now the Ministry should properly coordinate with the Ministry of Finance so that the clearance for these 14 schemes are obtained immediately. The concerns of the Committee in this regard should also be duly communicated to the Ministry of Finance.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT:

The Ministry notes the recommendations and assures that it will continue to make efforts to expedite the approval process. The concern of the Committee has also been communicated to Ministry of Finance.

Recommendation (Para No. 4 & 5)

The Commonwealth Games are scheduled to be held in October, 2010. While scrutinizing the Demands for Grants 2009-10 of the Ministry, the Committee have noted that the proposal for Commonwealth Games involving an expenditure of Rs.155.00 crore, which include Rs.134.00 crore for Prasar Bharati, Rs.10.00 crore for Press Information Bureau and Rs.11.00 crore for ITPO, has been approved by Planning Commission. As per the information made available to the Committee, the projects relating to Commonwealth Games are at the tendering/negotiation stage. Prasar Bharati is the host broadcaster for these Games. In addition to setting up coverage facilities at various competition and non-competition venues at Delhi, the host broadcaster is also required to set up an International Broadcasting Centre at Pragati Maidan. So far, the Ministry has been able to finalize the agency in respect of only production and coverage facilities. The selection of agencies for other critical activities is either at the tendering stage or at financial negotiation stage. For international Broadcasting Centre, an agency is yet to be awarded the work as financial negotiations are underway in Prasar Bharati. Further, the tendering process is also under way for selection of entity for 'booking-cum-information facilities and website designing and maintenance'. The Committee also note that, due to non-availability of sufficient response, Prasar Bharati is considering the option of re-tendering the work for Broadcast compounds and customization of space and broadcasting facilities at all competition venues.

5. The Committee are deeply concerned to note the tardy progress of the project. Many of the entities are at the tendering/negotiation stage with only 10 months left for the prestigious games. Keeping in view the fact that only limited time is available with the Ministry, the Committee desire that the process of selection of entities for the Commonwealth Games should be expedited. The Committee would like the Ministry to ensure that apart from expeditious selection of agencies, the implementation schedule should be worked out in such a manner so to avoid last minute hassles.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

The Press Information Bureau (PIB) has already selected BECIL as turn-key delivery partner for CWG and the contract with BECIL has also been signed. The Implementation schedule has been worked out by PIB, a copy of which is as below:-

Time lines for project of setting up of Main Press Centre for Commonwealth Games 2010.

Sl. no.	Name of activity	Completion date
1	Engagement of architect consultant	November 30,2009
2	Engagement of international media consultant.	December 31, 2009
3	Signing of contract by PIB and BECIL	January 8, 2010
4	Finalization of detailed design, drawings of RFP documents for the various media facilities.	February 28, 2010
5	Tendering for the media facilities.	March 31, 2010
6	Award of works	April 30, 2010
7	Taking over of Hall 12 and 12 A, Pragati Maidan	April 10, 2010
8	Execution of overlays in Main Press Centre.	June 30, 2010
9	Execution of fitments in Main Press Centre.	August 31,2010
10	Dry run, testing and training in Main Press Centre.	September 30, 2010

[Ministry of I&B's ID No. 14/14/2009- PPC (PART- V) dated 27.01.10]

Reply by Prasar Bharti:

The Organizing Committee - Commonwealth Games Delhi2010 has appointed, Doordarshan - a constituent of Prasar Bharati as the "Host Broadcaster" for the Games. A communication of the appointment of Doordarshan as Host Broadcaster for the Games from Organising Committee was confirmed on March 26, 2007.

The Host Broadcaster is required to produce and cover the designated sports-events and ceremonies from various Competition- Venues and non Competition-Venues in accordance with the International standards. Host Broadcaster intends outsourcing the aforesaid services, inter-alia, for Production and Coverage in respect of designated Sporting and Non- Sporting events relating to the said GAMES, from potential Broadcasting and/or Production entities. The Host Broadcaster assignments include:

- Production and Coverage facilities and services
- Setting up of IBC
- Broadcast Rate Card
- World Broadcaster Meetings
- Host Broadcast Manuals and Style Guides

- Pre-Games Programming

The updated status of various activities under Host Broadcaster assignments is as stated below:

1. **Production and Coverage activities:**

- After an elongated tendering process comprising EOI and RFP stages, SIS Live, UK was identified
- Approval of Competent Authority, i.e., Hon'ble Minister of I&B was obtained on October 22, 2009
- Accordingly, Letter Of Award (LOA) was issued to SIS Live for Rs. 246 crore (Two Hundred Forty Six crore only) on October 22, 2009
- The entity made presentation on basic 'production and coverage plan' alongwith HB during the recently held WBM – I (First World Broadcast Meet) from October 26 - 28, 2009 at New Delhi.
- The opening ceremony of Queen's Baton Relay held at Buckingham Palace, London on October 29, 2009 was covered live in HDTV by SIS Live. The ceremony was graced by Queen of England and H.E., the Hon'ble President of India. The signal was uplinked for its reception by the HB in New Delhi. International leg of Queen's Baton Relay is being covered by the entity at identified locations since October 29, 2009
- Master tapes in HDCAM are being delivered by SIS to HB on Pre-Game Programming.
- HB is to make copies of Pre-Game Programming capsules and Queen's Baton Relay capsules for CGF, OC, RHBs and other stakeholders on regular basis till October 2010.
- First Joint Venue survey by SIS Live, HB and OC teams of all the venues was done from November 23 to December 2, 2009. On the basis on the first survey, SIS Live has provided inputs regarding design, specifications and layout of various broadcast facilities to be customised /fabricated at Venues on January 12, 2010.
- Second Joint Venue survey scheduled from January 11, 2010 to January 20, 2010 is in process. In this survey SIS Live technical and production team will finalize location and deployment technique for the specialized cameras i.e. underwater cam, helicams, robocams, motocams ,etc. The expert team of the SIS Live is also testing Radio Frequencies for RF equipments to be deployed during Games time.
- Class - room training to PB personnel (around 430) has been successfully completed on December 8, 2009. On-site training of Hockey was also completed at Gurgaon just after Class – room training.
- On site hands on training of Badminton (scheduled 11-13) is completed on January 13, 2010 and Hands on training of Table –Tennis (scheduled January 14-16) is also completed on Jan. 16,2010 at Sports Hall, AIIMS complex, New Delhi.

2. **IBC activities:**

- During the financial evaluation exercise as part of the tendering process, the bids offered by two entities were opened. M/s Shaf Broadcast Pvt Ltd (Consortium of M/s Global Television Pty Ltd, Australia and M/s Shaf Broadcast Pvt Ltd, India) was found to be L-1. HBMC recommendations were forwarded to M/o I&B on November 20, 2009 for approval and decision.

- Ministry of Information & Broadcasting vide OM no 10/12/2009-b(Fin)Part-I dated 11th January 2010 has approved the selection of M/s Shaf Broadcast Private Limited (Consortium of M/s Global Television Pty Ltd, Australia and M/s Shaf Broadcast Pvt Ltd, India) for Design , Installation and Operation of IBC.
- Letter of Award (LOA) was issued on January 12, 2010 for Rs.65,90,96,986/- (Rs. Sixty five crore ninety lakh ninety six thousand nine hundred eighty six only). Performance Guarantee to be submitted by the Entity within 15 days. Contract to be signed by Entity.
- The space for IBC as identified from Hall Nos. 8-11 at ITPO, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi would be handed over to HB by April 1, 2010. Basic facilities like uninterrupted power supply, basic air-conditioning, parking, access roads, etc are being provided by OC/ITPO. Funds are being provided to ITPO by Government.

3. Event Management for WBM-I:

- After an elongated tendering process, zeroed-in entity was identified. LOA (Letter Of Award) was issued on October 21, 2009 to Wizcraft International, Mumbai for Rs. 2.70 crore (Two crore Seventy Lakhs only).
- The entity successfully conducted WBM-I held at New Delhi from October 26 to 28, 2009. Entity is required to also conduct WBM-II (proposed in April 2010) under the HB assignment.
- WBM -II is scheduled In April 16-18, 2010.

4. Booking-cum-Information office and HB Website:

- In response to the RFP for Booking cum Information Activity, as per FEC the rate quoted by the Entity is considered to be high.
- NIC has, therefore, been approached for taking up the Booking cum Information activity.
- NIC has agreed to design develop, operate and maintain the Booking cum Information Website.
- HB website having URLs www.hbcwgdelhi2010.org and www.hbcwgdelhi2010.com has been disseminating information about HB activities since November, 2009.
- The online Booking facility will be available to the RHBs from third week of January, 2010.

5. Broadcasting facilities at Venues:

- The engaged entity is to provide Broadcast Compounds, Commentary Tribunes, Camera positions (around 300 nos), Mixed Zones, etc at all the Competition-Venues. Besides this, Presentation Studios would be made at some of the identified major venues.
- EOI for 'Provision for Broadcasting facilities' at venues was issued in August, 2009. EOI could not be taken up further due to insufficient responses.
- Now, to save the time, single stage two bids (technical and financial bid) tender document is ready after incorporating the inputs provided by the actual user, i.e., SIS Live on the basis of joint venue survey.
- The tender was issued on January 18, 2010.
- Work pertaining to Broadcast facilities at venues is to be completed by June, 2010 which will integrate with other venue activities.

Recommendation (Para No. 6)

The Committee note that under the Information Sector, the Plan outlay during the year 2007-08 at BE stage was Rs.42.55 crore, which was reduced to Rs.36.00 crore at RE stage and the actual expenditure was Rs.35.27 crore. During the year 2008-09, the allocation at BE stage was Rs.51.28 crore, which was enhanced to Rs.75.89 crore at RE stage and the actual expenditure was Rs.66.74 crore. The Ministry was able to fully utilize the funds during the year 2007-08, whereas during the year 2008-09 there was under utilization of Outlay. As analysed in the earlier para of the report, the performance of the Ministry during the year 2008-09 need a review. The different projects/schemes being undertaken under the Information Sector should be critically analysed and corrective Action Taken by the Government so as to utilize the Outlay effectively. The corrective Action Taken by the Government in this regard should be communicated to the Committee.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

So far as under utilisation expenditure vis-à-vis RE 2008-09 and corrective measures to avoid such under-utilization in respect of Information Sector is concerned it may be stated that the SBG, RE and actual expenditure during 2008-09 was as under:-

		(Rs. in crores)
<u>BE</u>	<u>RE</u>	<u>Actual</u>
51.53	74.65	72.46

It may be seen from the above statement that the under-utilization was to the tune of Rs.2.19 crore under various Schemes of different Media Units. The main shortfall was in respect of Main Secretariat. This was due to non-acceptance of tender in respect of construction of Phase-V of Sochna Bhavan by the Work Advisory Board of CCW, AIR. In order to avoid under-utilization of funds, regular review meetings are being held at the level of Special Secretary and AS&FA every fortnight.

[M/o - I&B's I.D. No. 9/7/2010-MUC dated 11.02.2010]

Recommendation (Para No. 7)

The Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) is an institute of repute in the field of communication, teaching, training and research. During the Eleventh Plan, the Ministry plan to convert the IIMC into International Media University, which will allow it to award its own degrees in place of existing post graduate diploma courses. Expressing their dissatisfaction over the manner of implementation of the project, the Committee in their Fifty-fifth Report on Demands for Grants for 2008-09, had desired that the Ministry should draw up a road map for converting IIMC into International Media University and resolve all the deficiencies pointed out by the Committee. During the year 2008-09, Rs.1.00 crore was allocated to the institute at BE stage. However, not even a single rupee could be utilised during the year due to the reasons that 'in-principle' approval of the Planning Commission was received only in March, 2009. The draft SFC memo is now under consideration in Integrated Finance Division of the Ministry. The Committee further note that the Ministry is in the process of preparing a draft cabinet note in consultation with IIMC for conversion of the Institute into an International Media University which too can be considered only after SFC approval. Comparing to the present position with the situation last year, the Committee are disappointed to note that the Ministry has been extremely slow in moving the project. As no expenditure was incurred during the last year, it re-enforces the Committee's view about the inability of the Ministry to optimally utilize the funds. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should take up the project in right earnest and expedite approval of all mandatory clearances paving the way for conversion of IIMC into an International Media University.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

The 11th Plan scheme of 'Converting IIMC into an International Media University' is at a cost of Rs. 44.03 crores. However the total cost of the project is Rs. 69.21 crore (Direct Budgetary support Rs. 44.03 crore + Internal Resources Rs. 25.18 crore). Mandatory 'in principle' approval of the Planning Commission has been obtained. In the current financial, an outlay of Rs. 3.70 crore has been earmarked for the scheme. M/s. Ed.CIL, appointed as consultant, has submitted the

Detailed Project Report (DPR) which has been approved by the Executive Council and the General Council of IIMC.

In depth examination of the draft SFC Memorandum has been done in consultation with the Integrated Finance Division of this Ministry. It was decided that the Director, IIMC should review the SFC proposal and resubmit it after making necessary amendments in areas like staff, curriculum and space. Once the revised SFC Memorandum is submitted by IIMC, it shall be ensured, that the required approvals are obtained expeditiously and all out efforts would be made for implementation in the 11th five year plan itself.

[M/o – I&B's I.D. No. 9/7/2010-MUC dated 11.02.2010]

Recommendation (Para No. 8)

The Scheme for setting up the National Press Centre (NPC) was initiated in the Eighth Plan (1992-1997) and is still continuing in Eleventh Plan. Despite the land being allotted at 3 Raisina Road, New Delhi initially in September, 1994 and at 7 Raisina Road subsequently in November/December, 2001 and the foundation stone for the project having been laid by two Prime Ministers on 1st October, 1994 and 5th December, 2001, the project has been moving at snail pace. The Committee in their Fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2004-05) and Thirty-second Report on Demands for Grants (2006-07) had deplored the delay in setting up of the National Press Centre having the latest facilities at New Delhi. In all previous replies furnished to the Committee while examining Demands for Grants of the Ministry (2008-09), the Ministry have been stating that the progress of the scheme is being personally monitored with the executing agencies at the level of Additional Secretary. It was also informed that NBCC has been asked to release the notice inviting tender latest by 15 April, 2008 so that the award of work could be completed as projected in the PERT chart. Further, the Committee were informed that after approval of drawings by NDMC etc. the construction of building would start by the middle of 2008. Now, the Committee have been informed that final clearances from NDMC/DUAC were received in November/December, 2008. As such, the construction work is expected to start in January, 2010 after tender formalities are completed by NBCC. The Committee have also been informed that the total cost of the project has increased from 35.00 crore to Rs. 60.00 crore. The

information has come as a rude shock to the Committee. Despite the existence of monitoring mechanism at the highest level within the Ministry, no progress could be achieved. What has surprised the Committee is the fact that the Ministry could not spend a single rupee during the year even when funds were available to the extent of Rs.4.37 crore both at BE and RE stages. The clearance of statutory formalities should not have taken such a long time when the project was being monitored regularly with all agencies. While placing on record their displeasure, the Committee hope that the construction work would now atleast start without any further loss of time with all the clearances in place and the project completed within the stipulated period of eighteen months.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

A Plan scheme for construction of National Press Centre at a cost of Rs. 35.00 crores was approved on 25-01-2005. The work of construction was awarded to National Building Construction Corporation Ltd. (NBCC) on ready to occupy basis vide MOU dated 16-02-2006. The NBCC submitted building plan to NDMC for approval on 24-02-2006. NDMC suggested some modification in plans and after modification in Plan it was resubmitted. The total construction area was fixed to 9210 sq. meter. Later it was decided to utilize fully permissible area of 13,867 sq. meter as the norms for the FAR had been revised by the approving agencies. Accordingly, revised drawings and lay out plan were prepared and action for obtaining statutory permission from various agencies viz. CPWD, NDMC, Fire Department and DUAC etc. was taken. However, the construction could not start as the Urban Design Form was finalized by CPWD/NDMC/DUAC in December, 2007. The revised scheme was submitted to NDMC in January, 2008. DUAC remained non functional for some period and approved the proposal only in October, 2008. All necessary statutory approvals were received during 2008 and drawings finally released by NDMC in December, 2008. Due to increase in construction area the estimated cost as well as period of completion increased from Rs. 35.00 crore to Rs. 60.00 crore and from 24 months to 30 months respectively. The revised cost was approved by the EFC on 15th September, 2009. The fresh contract with NBCC is under finalization, following which the construction work will start.

Recommendation (Para No. 9)

The Committee have also been informed that Rs.7.00 crore was released in March, 2006 to NBCC as initial deposit as per MoU. The Committee are unable to understand the logic for release of amount to NBCC in 2006 when drawings/plans etc. were pending clearance from the statutory authorities. In this regard, the Ministry has substantiated that as per clause 2 (iii) of Memorandum of Understanding with NBCC, 20% of the approved estimated cost was to be released to NBCC as initial deposit. The Committee feel that incorporation of a provision for release of 20% (twenty per cent) amount of the approved estimated cost as initial deposit to NBCC pending statutory clearances is not appropriate. Clearly it is a case of bad drafting of MoU wherein NBCC has been benefited by receiving the money in 2006 without undertaking any construction activities till 2009. The Committee recommend that the matter may be investigated thoroughly and the Committee apprised accordingly.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

EFC has decided to replace the old MOU and new contract is to be signed between NBCC and PIB. The matter of Rs. 7.00 crores, released in March, 2006 to NBCC as initial deposit as per MOU has been taken up with NBCC and it has agreed that the interest earned by them till September, 2009 on the amount unspent from Rs. 7.00 crores will be deposited in Government Account.

[M/o – I&B's I.D. No. 23/9/2009-Press dated 10.02.2010]

Recommendation (Para No.10)

The aforesaid programme was started during the Eleventh Plan for dissemination of information about the flagship programmes of the Government. As a part of the Government's efforts to reach out to the common man, nation wide Public Information Campaigns (PICs) are organised. The programme cover schemes like National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), National Rural Health Mission, Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan, Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for welfare of minorities, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Welfare of Scheduled Tribes. Rural Housing, Rural road connectivity and other components of Bharat Nirman and Right to Information Act etc. With allocation of Rs.9.50 crore for the current year, the Committee hope that

adequate publicity will be provided for the various programmes concerning the upliftment of the weaker sections of the society and the outlay earmarked is optimally utilized. The Committee desire that the findings of all the Public Information Campaign, success stories and press tours may be evaluated and the inputs utilized to improve the performance of the scheme.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

So far as Media Outreach Programme is concerned, adequate publicity is being provided to the various flagship programmes of Central Government as detailed

below :-

Bharat Nirman-package for development of Rural Infrastructure :-

1. Rural Housing
2. Rural Road connectivity
3. Rural Drinking Water Supply
4. Rural Electrification
5. Rural Telephone Connectivity
6. Rural Irrigation

- a. National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA)
- b. National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)
- c. Sarv Shiksha Abyhiyan (SSA)
- d. Mid Day Meal Programme
- e. Jawahar Lal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission
- f. Right to Information Act
- g. Prime Minister's New 15-point Programme for the welfare of Minorities.
- h. Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme.
- i. Tribal Welfare specially the benefits of Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dweller (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.
- j. Programme for workers in unorganized sector

- k. Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy & Law.
- l. Backward Region Grant Fund
- m. Misc. Programmes like Total Sanitation Campaign, SGSY, Women Empowerment, Agriculture, Social Security Measures (old age pension etc.) etc.

During the current financial year efforts are being made to meet the target of organizing 100 Bharat Nirman Public Information Campaigns (PICs), 9 Press tours and 100 Success Stories. Upto December 2009, Rs. 4.37 crores have been utilized on organizing 49 PICs, 45 success stories and 4 Press Tours. The remaining funds will also be fully utilized before the end of this financial year. The suggestion of the Committee for evaluation of the scheme has been noted.

[M/o – I&B's I.D. No. 23/9/2009-Press dated 10.02.2010]

Recommendation (Para No. 11 &12)

The new scheme was initiated during the Eleventh Plan, with three components viz. (a) Computerization and Digitalization; (b) Office Infrastructure; & (c) Human Resource Development. It envisages modernization of all the wings of DAVP through computerization, digitalization, procurement of modern office infrastructure for better efficiency of the functioning of DAVP. Under the scheme, the conference hall of DAVP has been upgraded and hardware/software installed in the Digital Library of the exhibition Hall. So far 140 employees of the Directorate have been trained and more training programmes are being organised.

The Committee note that under the scheme Rs.7.95 crore was spent till March, 2009. For the year 2009-10, Rs.1.80 crore has been kept for this purpose and the balance of Rs.3.94 crore will be spent on modernization by the end of Eleventh Plan. DAVP being the multi-media advertising agency of the Government, it carries policies programmes and achievement of various Ministries to masses through media. Since DAVP is instrumental in bringing social-economic changes and development over the years, the Committee while appreciating the efforts of the Ministry to adopt latest technology, computer literacy and effective use of IT in administration and management desire that all the employees of the

Directorate should be given intensive training to upgrade their skills, which will help in better implementation of the scheme.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

The Ministry accepts the recommendations of the Committee. All the employees of the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity would be given training to upgrade their skills during the balance period of the Scheme.

[M/o – I&B's I.D. No. 10/2/2010-MUC dated 04.02.2010]

Recommendation (Para No. 13)

The Committee note that Song & Drama Division and the Directorate of Field Publicity are two very important units of the Information Wing of the Ministry. The Song and Drama Division has played an important role in creating awareness amongst general public on various social and economic issues. The Division has played an important role with defence forces. Besides, being a mechanism for entertainment for Army jawans, it has played an important role in border areas by creating a sense of defence preparedness and cultural integrity with rest of the country. The Committee are surprised to note that Expenditure Reform Commission had initially recommended for closure of these Divisions. However, the Ministry did not accept the recommendation of the ERC. Justifying their continuance, the Ministry approached the Committee of Secretaries/Ministry of Finance not to insist on implementation of the recommendation of ERC. Ultimately, the Ministry of Finance has agreed not to implement the recommendations of ERC beyond what has already been implemented subject to the advice that a comprehensive review may be carried out of the organizational structure to streamline operation. During the course of oral evidence, the Committee were informed that the decision has finally been taken not to close the Song & Drama Division. The Committee note that Song & Drama Division and Directorate of Field Publicity are two important mechanisms for dissemination of information with regard to Central policies/programmes to masses particularly in rural far-flung and difficult areas besides being the source of entertainment for them. The Committee are happy to note that ultimately the suggestion of Expenditure Reforms Commission has been struck down and these units

continue to operate. The Committee also strongly recommend that the Ministry should take all the initiatives to revitalize both these media units.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

As mentioned above, M/o Finance conveyed its concurrence to not implement the ERC's recommendations beyond what has already been implemented. However, the said approval was subject to advice that a comprehensive review may be carried out of the organizational structure with a view to streamline operations and to reduce manpower, where feasible.

Presently, Cadre Review Committee has already been constituted to undertake the comprehensive cadre review exercise in respect of all the cadres in S&DD as per the guidelines of DOP&T. The recommendations of the Committee would be examined and placed before the concerned nodal Ministries/Departments for seeking their concurrence.

[M/o I&B's I.D. Note No. 3/18/09-FS dated 27.01.2010]

Recommendation (Para No. 17)

The animation, Gaming and Visual Effects industry is both technology as well as technical intensive. The rapid technological development has pushed growth in the fields of animation, Gaming and Special Visual Effects. The setting up of a National Centre of Excellence for Animation, Gaming and Special Effects has been envisaged as a new scheme in the Eleventh Plan. The proposed outlay for this scheme in the Eleventh Plan is Rs.52.00 crore and an amount of Rs.1.00 crore has been allocated for the scheme in the current financial year. The Committee in their Fifty-fifth Report on DFG 2008-09 had desired that the Ministry should single-mindedly pursue the project so that skilled manpower is available in the country. However, the Committee find that the scheme is awaiting 'in-principle' approval of the Planning Commission. The agency engaged by the Ministry to conduct a study on human resources for setting up of a National Centre of Excellence for Animation, Gaming and Visual Effects has since submitted its report recommending setting up of the proposed Centre. The Ministry is now in the process of appointing a Consultant for

preparing the Detailed Project Report. The Committee have been informed that the Ministry will seek 'in-principle' approval of the Planning Commission in the beginning of the next financial year (2010-11). Initially, the Committee were informed that the scheme is proposed to be implemented under PPP mode (Private, Public Partnership). Now, the Committee have been informed that no decision has been taken about the mode of implementation of the scheme. The Committee are disturbed with the abysmally slow pace of the scheme. As the proposed Centre is essentially being created to address the issue of shortage of skilled manpower in the field of animation, gaming and special visual effects, the Committee desire that the Ministry should act in right earnest to implement the project of national importance. The Committee would like to be apprised about the specific measures taken about implementation of the remaining stage of implementation of the scheme.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

In the first place, the Ministry would like to place on record its gratitude to the Hon'ble Committee for underlining the felt need and importance of such a Centre of Excellence. This Ministry would like to assure the Hon'ble Committee that the Scheme is being pursued in right earnest. In this regard, it is further submitted that when approval in-principle was sought earlier from Planning Commission, they had directed us to submit to them an Executable Detailed Project Report (EDPR). We had been further requested to examine, inter alia, the need for such a Centre in the light of existing Film & Television Schools at Pune and Kolkata and the IIMC. In-principle approval was sought from Planning Commission on the strength of a detailed HR Gap study carried out by a Consultant which had submitted its finding, as per which there is a definitive HR Gap between the demand and the supply of human resources for animation, gaming and special effects. The Consultant had categorically recommended to set up the proposed Centre of Excellence. The Consultant had carried out a study on the requirements of different skill sets for this industry at present and changes to come about in future years.

As per the requirement of the Planning Commission and after detailed deliberations within the Ministry, Terms of Reference for getting a detailed project report have been finalized. ToR includes, inter alia, the issue whether the project could be set up in PPP mode. The Consultant would be required to make specific

suggestions in this regard. M/s PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) have been commissioned as Consultant to prepare a Detailed Project Report.

(Ministry of I & B's I.D. No. 110/17/09-FI Dated 4.03.2010)

Recommendation (Para No. 18)

Set up under the Cinematograph Act, 1952 (37 of 1852) for the purpose of certification of films for public exhibition, the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) is based at Mumbai. The Committee note that in the Eleventh Plan under the scheme 'Establishment of Computertized Management System' and 'Upgradation of Infrastructure facilities in CBFC', a total provision of Rs.3.50 crore has been approved. During the year 2008-09, under this plan scheme a total expenditure of Rs.19.80 lakhs was incurred against BE of Rs.58 lakhs. About the timelines for completion of the work, the Committee have been informed that out of total amount of Rs.3.50 crore, Rs.2.97 crore has been approved for computerization of all Regional Offices and the remaining amount of Rs.53 lakh is meant for upgradation of infrastructure in CBFC, Mumbai and its regional offices. The revised SFC approval has been obtained on 17 September, 2009 and substantial work relating to computerization in CBFC, Mumbai and its regional offices except at New Delhi, has been completed. The work at New Delhi office is expected to be completed by the end of December, 2010. For upgradation of infrastructure in CBFC, Mumbai and its regional offices, financial sanctions are being issued. Since India has the largest film industry in the world, the networking of CBFC regional offices with establishment of computerized management system and up gradation of infrastructure are expected to improve connectivity among the different Regional Offices and between the CBFC headquarter and the Ministry. The Committee desire that the Ministry should expeditiously complete all the remaining stages of implementation.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT:

Committee's observations have been noted for compliance.

[M/o – I&B's I.D. No. 812/1/2010-F(C) dated 09.02.2010]

Recommendation (Para No. 19)

The regional offices of CBFC are located at Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Thiruvananthapuram, Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati.

The last three Regional Offices mentioned above, are functioning with the help of staff drawn from other media units. Since shortage of manpower were adversely affecting the functioning of Regional Offices at Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati, the Committee in their Fifty-fifth Report on DFG 2008-09 had requested the Ministry to suitably enhance the cadre strength of these Regional Offices. The Committee have now been informed that steps have been taken for filling up the posts of Regional Officers and Lower Division Clerks at New Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati Regional Offices of CBFC. Applications for the posts of Regional Officers for the above three offices have been advertised and the process of selection is expected to start. As steps have already been initiated to augment the manpower to manage its activities, the Committee desire that the process of selection should be completed in a time bound manner and incumbents take charge of their responsibilities.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT:

The process of selection of a suitable candidate for the post of Regional Officer, CBFC, Delhi and Regional Officer, CBFC, Cuttack has been completed. The post of R.O., CBFC, Guwahati was advertised in the Employment News, dated 8-14 August, 2009. Since no application was received for this post, this post has been re-advertised in the Employment News, dated 9-16 January, 2010. The process of recruitment to the newly created three posts of LDCs for these three regional offices is being expedited.

[M/o – I&B's I.D. No. 812/1/2010-F(C) dated 04.03.2010]

Recommendation (Para No. 20)

The Committee also note that the Cinematographic Act is of 1952. There have been piecemeal amendments in the Act from time to time. The Committee desire that a thorough review of the whole Act may be undertaken in consonance with the present scenario.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT:

Committee's observations have been noted for compliance and a review is already underway.

Recommendation (Para No. 22)

Children's Film Society of India, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, is engaged in the task of production, exhibition and promotion of children's films. During the year 2008-09, Rs. 4.00 crore were provided to this Society, out of which Rs.3.86 crore was utilised. The Committee note that the physical achievement of the Society during the year 2007-08 was low as no film could be completed. However, during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto August, 2009) five and three films respectively were completed. The Committee have been informed that CFSI has been working towards making films which, besides good marketable quality will be of high standard in terms content and quality. In this context, the Committee may like to take note of the success of a commercial movie 'Taare Zameen Par' produced by Aamir Khan. The Committee feel that there is an urgent need to have more and more quality films concerning various issues related to children. The Committee would like to recommend that taking a cue from the success of the movie 'Taare Zameen Par' the commercial viability of the films produced by the Children Film Society of India should be explored. The concrete Action Taken by the Government in this regard should be communicated to the Committee.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

CFSI is taking necessary steps to produce films which are not only meaningful and entertaining but also commercially successful/viable. Efforts are being made to invite reputed film makers to produce quality films with known actors and technicians so that these films could be marketed on a bigger scale. Further, since 2009, CFSI has earmarked 10% of the total budget of the film for publicity purposes so that films produced by them could be marketed in a better way.

Recommendation (Para No. 23)

The Committee note that a proposal about digitalization of cable services is under consideration of the Ministry. The Government is in the process of laying down a policy framework in consultation with TRAI for introduction of HITS mode of delivery to the cable operators. The introduction of HITS would enable satellites to directly link with all cable operators which is not possible at present. Besides enabling the Cable Operators to carry digitalized services to the consumers, it would also bring down the cost of digitalization. The Committee have been informed that after consultation with TRAI and other concerned Ministries, a draft cabinet note along with the proposed guidelines for HITS was submitted for consideration of the previous Cabinet. However, no decision could be taken up. Now, a fresh note for referring the matter to the Cabinet is being finalized. The Committee appreciate the initiatives taken by the Ministry in regard to digitalization of cable services located in non-CAS areas of the country. The Committee desire that the proposal may be finalized and implemented expeditiously.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

The Cabinet in its meeting on 12.11.2009 approved the proposal of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to issue policy guidelines for Headend-in-the-Sky operators. The Government on 26.11.2009 issued policy guidelines. The policy guidelines provides for a framework within which the HITS Service providers has to provide services in the country. The policy does not mandate for either the cable operators or subscribers to necessarily obtain signals from a HITS platform/network, the subscribers and cable operators can continue with the existing system. Hence the cable operators have liberty to switch over to HITS provider network if so desired. Thus it has a basic difference from the areas notified for CAS (conditional access system) which is mandatory.

HITS serves the whole country providing its signals through satellite to many MSO/ cable operators who can further send the signals to the customers using their cable network. The essential difference between a HITS operator and a Multi System operator (MSO) is that the former transmits the bundle of channels to the cable operators using a satellite, whereas the latter does the same through cable. HITS is a digital delivery mode of distribution of TV channel and it would speed up

the process of digitalization of cable services located in Non-CAS areas of the country. HITS would not only help increase the penetration of cable market further into rural areas where it has been absent because of un-viability but would also help in further reduction of prices of Set Top Boxes and lead to further consolidation of the cable market.

HITS would help a subscriber with a wide choice of digital channels, better picture quality and value added services at affordable price. HITS would provide greater channel capacity from the present limited capacity of channels placed in prime/non prime band. Salient features of the HITS policy approved now are:-

- It provides for an enabling regulatory environment for HITS operators. The guidelines are exhaustive and provide for complete procedure for obtaining permission and conditions thereto.
- HITS services are allowed in both 'C-Band' and 'Ku- Band'.
- HITS operators can uplink from Indian soil only and will have to install SMS and encryption system.
- They are not permitted to provide signals directly to the subscribers. However if HITS operator is also MSO/Cable Operator, he can do so through his distribution network.
- Total direct and in direct foreign investment including FDI is allowed upto 74%. Prior FIPB approval will be required if the FDI is beyond 49%.
- The cross media holding restriction of 20% of total paid up equity has been prescribed for various segment of broadcasting services. These restrictions have been provided to avoid vertical integration and to promote competition.
- There is no restriction on number of permissions. All those found to be eligible and fulfill the terms and conditions can apply for license to the Government in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

- Existing permission holders of HITS will have to comply and migrate to new policy regime within three months failing which their permission shall be cancelled.
- Sufficient provisions exist under the guidelines for monitoring of content, inspection and national security related issues etc.

[M/o – I&B's I.D. No. 5/01/2009-BP&L dated 28.1.2010]

Chapter -III

NIL

CHAPTER IV

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

Recommendation (Para No. 15)

The Committee note that in the Film Sector, the Plan allocation outlay during the year 2007-08 at BE stage was Rs.41.98 crore, which was reduced to Rs.30.00 crore at RE stage and the actual expenditure was Rs.29.00 crore. During the year 2008-09, the allocation at BE stage was Rs.67.00 crore, which was reduced to Rs.50.06 crore and the actual expenditure was Rs.37.67 crore. The trend of under-utilization of outlay during the year 2008-09 and the comparative worse performance during the said year as compared to the year 2007-08 as noted in the earlier part of the report exists in the film sector also. It reinforces the Committee's view that there were some problems in implementation of the programmes during the year 2008-09. The issue of under-utilization need to be probed and all corrective actions taken in respect of the various projects/schemes. The Committee should be kept apprised about the concrete Action Taken by the Government in this regard.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT:

The F(PSU) Desk in this Ministry has two Plan Schemes, namely (i) Film Production in various regional languages and (ii) Equity Participation in NFDC. In the year 2007-08 Rs.3 crore was provided in BE for the Plan Scheme 'Film Production in various regional languages' whereas Rs.10 lakhs was provided for Plan Scheme 'Equity Participation in NFDC. Since Plan Scheme 'Film Production in various regional languages' could not be approved during the financial year 2007-08, provision of Rs.3 crore in BE was revised to nil at RE stage. Also the provision of Rs.10 lakhs for 'Equity Participation in NFDC' could not be spent as investment in Equity Participation required the approval of the Cabinet and the exercise was taken up by the Ministry but no approval could be obtained.

In the year 2008-09 a provision of Rs.6.50 crore was made in respect of the Plan Scheme 'Film Production in various regional languages' and a provision of Rs.8 crore was made in respect of the plan scheme 'Equity participation in NFDC' at BE stage. While the provision of Rs.6.50 crore for Film Production in various regional languages could be spent during the financial year the BE provision of Rs. 8 crore towards Equity Participation in NFDC was revised to a token provision of Rs.1 lakh as it was decided during this year to refer the case of revival of NFDC to Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises for their consideration and recommendation as the company became sick and approval of the Cabinet to the proposal for equity investment in NFDC was not likely to be obtained during the year.

In the year 2009-2010 so far BE provision of Rs.6.50 crore has been provided for the Plan Scheme 'Film Production in various regional languages' and the entire provision has already been released to NFDC. In respect of plan scheme "Equity Participation in NFDC' only a token provision of Rs. 1 lakh has been made as it was felt that it may not be possible to get the approval of the Cabinet to the proposal for Equity Participation in NFDC during the current financial year as well.

[Ministry of I&B's O.M.No.204/12/2009-F (PSU) dated 04.03.2010]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 6 of Chapter I)

Recommendation (Para No. 27)

The Committee have been informed that in view of concerns expressed by Hon'ble Courts, Parliamentary Committees, civil society organizations, viewers, media critiques and State Governments, the Government proposes to put in place the Broadcasting Regulatory Authority of India (BRAI) under an Act of Parliament and a new Content Code to be issued hereunder. The Committee have also been informed that after consultation with stakeholders, a draft of the Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill has been re-drafted. The views of all the State Governments have been solicited. According to the Ministry, so far 15 State Governments out of 28 States and 6 Union Territories out of 7 UTs, have given their recommendations. Now, it is proposed to hold consultations with academicians, non-governmental and civil society organizations, consumer forums etc. The Committee are of the opinion

that there is an urgent need for a proper monitoring mechanism for broadcasting industry and, therefore, expect the Ministry to complete the process of consultation with all the stakeholders in a time bound manner. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should make earnest efforts to introduce the said Bill in the Parliament expeditiously.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

The Ministry has been consulting States/UTs on the proposed Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill . So far 18 States and 6 UTs have submitted their comments on the proposed Bill.

Ministry has also initiated wide ranging consultations with stakeholders for arriving at a consensus on this issue. The Ministry has already held consultations with Indian Broadcasting Foundation, Multi System Operator (MSO) Alliance, News Broadcasters Association (NBA), Broadcast Editors Association (BEA) and the Cable Operators Federation of India (COFI). To take the process further, a Task Force has been constituted on 27.11.2009 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, I & B with two representatives each from News Broadcasters Association, Indian Broadcasting Foundation and Broadcast Editors Association. The Task Force would interact with different stakeholders to understand their perspective on the need, scope and jurisdiction, organizational structure, powers and functions of independent Broadcast regulator and issues relating to regulation of content. The Task Force held its first meeting on 29th December 2009 to discuss the methodology, to identify various interest groups, frequency of meetings etc. The Task Force proposes to furnish its recommendations to the Government at the earliest. This issue has also been discussed in the 27th Conference of the State Information Ministers held on 5th December 2009 at Vigyan Bhawan.

[M/o – I&B's I.D. No. 5/01/2009-BP&L dated 21.01.2010]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 12 of Chapter I)

Recommendation (Para No. 28)

The Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 contains provisions for constitution of a Parliamentary Committee and a Broadcasting Council. However, the

Committee note that these provisions have never been put into operation. The Committee were naturally curious to know the reasons for non-constitution of the Parliamentary Committees and the Broadcasting Council, as envisaged under the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990. The Committee have been informed that the two Committees of Prasar Bharati (Report dated August, 1996 of Sengupta Committee and Narayanmurthy Committee report dated May, 2000) had recommended that there was no need for these provisions in the light of Standing and Consultative Committees of Parliament. The Ministry has also suggested that over the years, since the Standing Committees of Parliament have been performing the same role as envisaged for the Parliamentary Committee in the Act, the matter regarding constitution of a separate Committee on Prasar Bharati has not been pursued. However, the CEO Prasar Bharati during the course of deliberations was in favour of constitution of a separate Parliamentary Committee on Prasar Bharati and the Broadcasting Council as provided in the Act. However, he submitted that it was his personal view. The Committee fail to understand non implementation of such an important provision of the Act i.e. constitution of a Parliamentary Committee and Broadcasting Council during almost 19 years that have passed since the Act came into effect. The Committee are unable to accept the views of the Ministry that non constitution of these bodies were as per the recommendations by the Sengupta Committee and Narayanmurthy Committee Report. The reports of the aforesaid Committees were submitted in the years 1996 and 2000. Since then 13 and 9 years respectively have passed and even then the Ministry could not take the decision. As a result thereof, the provisions made in the aforesaid Act remained without implementation. The Committee take the non implementation of these provisions seriously particularly when the word `shall' has been used in the legislation for the purpose of constitution of these bodies and would like the Department to take the final decision on the constitution of these bodies.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

The matter of constitution of Parliamentary Committee and the Broadcasting Council as per the provisions of Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 was placed before the last GOM but it could not be taken up. In the proposal sent to Cabinet Secretariat by the Ministry for reconstitution of GOM, this issue has been mentioned among others as one of the reasons for continuation of GOM. Since the matter requires

high level inter-ministerial deliberations, a final view is proposed to be taken after the reconstitution of GOM and its recommendations on the issue are obtained.

Now that the GOM has been reconstituted, the matter will be placed before it for consideration.

[M/o – I&B's I.D. No. 5/01/2009-BP&L dated 21.01.2010]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 15 of Chapter No. 1)

Recommendation (Para No. 16)

The scheme for setting up of Museum of Moving Images was started in the Tenth Plan and is continuing in Eleventh Plan. The scheme is intended to depict the history of Indian Cinema through audio-visual presentation and display of important artifacts relating to the history of Indian Cinema, exhibiting the work of noted Directors, Producers, institutions etc. It would also depict the evolution of Indian Cinema over the last hundred years. In their Fifty-fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2008-09) the Committee while deprecating the delay in implementation of the scheme, had desired that the Ministry should work out definite timelines for implementation of the scheme. The Committee find from the information provided by the Ministry that there has hardly been any progress under the scheme other than signing of the MoU with the National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC) for preparation of Detailed Project Report. With regard to the existing status, the Committee note that the project is yet to be approved by Expenditure Finance Committee. Once the proposal is approved, the Film Division, on behalf of the Ministry, will enter into a contract with NBCC and National Council of Science Museum for their respective roles in the project. The Committee strongly recommend that at least now adequate steps should be taken by the Ministry to get the clearance of the project. Besides, the Committee would also like that definite timelines regarding the conceptualization and implementation of the project should be drawn so that MOMI is set up within a definite time frame.

Action Taken by the Government

The proposal for setting up Museum of Moving Images (MOMI) has been considered by the Expenditure Finance Committee in its meeting held on 11.01.2010. The Committee has recommended the proposal for approval of the competent authority, in accordance with the existing guidelines on appraisal/approval of EFC. Timelines regarding implementation of the project have also been drawn up in order to set up the said Museum expeditiously. Broadly, it has been proposed to set up the Museum through National Buildings Construction Corporation Ltd. (NBCC) while the interactive galleries would be set up by National Council of Science Museums (NCSM). Most of the items to be displayed would be procured from the historians, collectors and others through voluntary donation basis for the museum. However, some historical items may have to be purchased. After approval of the EFC, Films Division would enter into a contract with NBCC which is the main executive agency clearly delineating its responsibilities for timely completion of the project including coordination with NCSM and other agencies.

[M/o – I&B's I.D. No. H-11013/01/2010-F(A) dated 03.02.2010]

CHAPTER V

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

Recommendation (Para No. 3)

The Committee further note that the financial performance during the year 2007-08 under the Plan schemes was better than the year 2008-09. During the year 2007-08 i.e. first year of Eleventh Plan, BE amounting to Rs.475.00 crore was reduced to Rs. 400.00 crore at RE stage. The actual utilization was Rs. 398.10 crore which means that the outlay earmarked at RE stage was almost fully utilized. During the year 2008-09, i.e. the second year of the Eleventh Plan, the BE was Rs.700.00 crore which was reduced to Rs. 600.00 crore at RE stage. The actual utilization was Rs.424.66 crore which means Rs.175.34 crore remained unutilized. As stated in the earlier para of the report, 2 ongoing schemes and 12 new schemes are still awaiting requisite approval and the main reason for under-spending has been indicated as pending approval of these schemes as acknowledged by the Secretary during the course of oral evidence. Even if the delay in finalization of scheme is accepted as the reason for under-utilization as stated by the Ministry, the deteriorating performance in terms of percentage of financial achievement during the second year is not acceptable. Certainly there are other reasons for ineffective utilization of outlay. The Committee strongly recommend that the reasons too should be probed Scheme/Project-wise under the three sectors of the Ministry viz Film Sector, Information Sector and Broadcasting Sector and the corrective Action Taken by the Government so that the outlay allocated is meaningfully utilized.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

The Ministry has since taken action directing the concerned Administrative Unit to probe the reasons of ineffective utilization of funds. Appropriate measures

will continue to be taken to improve the performance in plan implementation and utilization of funds.

[Ministry of I & B O.M. No. 4/18/2009-PC (Vol.V) dated 08.02.2010]

Recommendation (Para No. 14)

The Press Council of India was established in 1978 under an Act of Parliament. Press Council is the repository of the trust of the Parliament in guiding the press to high standards of its functioning and preservation of its freedom against any onslaught. It acts as an independent quasi Judicial Authority with adjudicatory advisory and regulatory functions. Press Council of India is mandated to preserve the freedom of the Press and maintain and improve the standards of newspapers and news agencies in India. The Secretary of the Ministry during the course of deliberations informed the Committee that to give more powers, a proposal to amend the Press Council Act is under consideration. Presently, PCI is in the process of firming up its own views on the matter. Thereafter, the proposal for amendment to the Act would be considered by the Ministry. The Committee strongly recommend that the proposals for amendment to the PCI Act should be drafted carefully after wider consultations and evolving consensus on important issues related to the media.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT:

The proposal to amend the Press Council Act, 1978 has been received from Press Council of India (PCI) and is under consideration of this Ministry. The recommendations of the Committee in respect of careful drafting of amendment to the Press Council Act, 1978 after wider consultations have been noted.

[M/o I&B's I.D. Note No. 23/9/2009-Press dated 26.02.2010]

Recommendation (Para No. 21)

The National Film Development Corporation Limited is the central agency established by the Government of India to promote the growth of the Indian Film industry and to foster excellence in cinema. During the

year 2008-09, Rs.14.5 crore were allocated at BE stage. However, the allocation was reduced to Rs.6.51 crore at RE stage. The Committee note that NFDC has been reporting losses for the last few years and therefore, it has been decided to refer to the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) for examination and for revival of NFDC. The Committee have also been informed that the Government has approved a proposal of NFDC for introducing voluntary retirement scheme to rationalize the manpower of the Corporation to make it clean and efficient organization. The Ministry in their Action Taken by the Government Replies in regard to the recommendation of the Committee contained in Fifty-fifth Report on DFG (2008-09) had stated that the blue print to revamp the Corporation and improve its financial performance is under consideration. The Committee are unhappy to note that NFDC was unable to reverse the trend of loss making over the years despite infusion of funds by the Government. Since a decision has now been taken to refer the matter to the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE), the Committee would like to be apprised about the revival package for NFDC.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

NFDC has submitted a comprehensive revival plan prepared with the assistance of SBI Capital Markets Ltd. to this Ministry on 1.1.2010. The revival plan is under examination in this Ministry and the same has been sent to BRPSE vide letter No. 202/32/2009-F(PSU) dated 26.02.2010. BRPSE would consider the revival plan and make appropriate recommendations in the matter. Based on the recommendations of the BRPSE, a Note proposing measures for revival of NFDC would be moved by the Ministry for consideration of the Cabinet. After the Cabinet considers and approves the proposal the same would be implemented.

(Ministry of I&B's O.M.No.204/12/2009-F (PSU) dated 04.03.2010)

Recommendation (Para No. 24)

The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 providing for the establishment of Broadcasting Corporation for India, known as Prasar Bharati came into effect on 15th September, 1997. The

Committee have been informed that about 80 per cent of the allocation goes to Prasar Bharati, which for the current year consists of Rs.646 crore and the remaining allocation goes to other sectors of the Ministry viz. Information Sector and Film Sectors. The Committee note that the Plan outlay for Prasar Bharati for the year 2009-10 is Rs.657 crore consisting of grant-in-aid and loan. The total Revenue Plan Budget is Rs.250.21 crore which the Government will give in the form of grant-in-aid and the Capital Plan Budget is Rs.406.79 crore, which the Government will provide in the form of loan. There will be no IEBR support to Prasar Bharati towards Plan 2009-10. The Committee note that out of allocation provided at RE stage which was Rs.334.00 crore in 2007-08 and Rs.474.05 crore in 2008-09, Prasar Bharati could spend Rs.333.83 in 2007-08 and Rs.320.25 crore in 2008-09. The Committee observe that there were gross under spending under the plan schemes of AIR and Doordarshan during the year 2008-09. The reasons put forth by the Ministry for low utilization of allocation by Prasar Bharati were, litigation relating to procurement of transmitters, delay in approval of new schemes specially digitalization scheme of Doordarshan, lengthy procurement procedure for machinery and equipments and re tendering of work due to non compliance of the specifications by bidders etc. The Committee are of the view that large projects necessarily requires careful planning so that they can be executed in a planned way. Similarly, the Ministry and the Prasar Bharati have to take necessary steps to solve their internal management problems to streamline the procurement procedure. The Committee are of the opinion that Prasar Bharati should take timely remedial measures to ensure achievement of targets. The Committee would like to be apprised about the measures taken by the Prasar Bharati in the above context.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

It has been observed that the utilization of the BE/RE stage allocation of Plan funds for Prasar Bharati has been very low caused by non-approval of the schemes and the long procurement cycle in Prasar Bharati.

As far as the approval process in the Ministry is concerned, the approval of the Ministry is dependent upon the proposal being received in a comprehensive manner from Prasar Bharati so that the formal process of approval of the SFC (Standing Finance Committee) or the EFC (Expenditure Finance Committee) or the CCEA (Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs) is obtained. Therefore, the onus of

fulfilling the initial task i.e. submission of a complete proposal to the Ministry is of Prasar Bharati.

The Ministry of I&B has two levels of monitoring of progress of implementation of the scheme/projects – (i) Media Unit Level and (ii) Ministry Level. To monitor the pace of expenditure of plan funds release to Prasar Bharati, regular plan review meetings are being held at the Ministry level on a weekly basis to expedite approval/implementation of plan schemes. The progress is being monitored both in terms of financial and physical parameters also. With regard to the level of utilization of plan outlay the Ministry has continued to emphasize the need for expeditious development process and addressing the bottlenecks affecting implementation of schemes/programmes.

One major reason for slow pace of expenditure in Prasar Bharati is on account of the long drawn procurement procedure for machinery and equipment etc. Discussion with Prasar Bharati officials reveals that the actual timeline for capital procurement of equipment as per DGS&D manual starting from publication of NIT till placement of advance/final AT (Acceptance of Tender) after sanction by competent authority and replying to queries, is 52 weeks. However, an ideal timeline for each stage of activity involved in the procurement of equipment could be reduced to 32 weeks.

The Broadcasting Wing of the Ministry of I&B has already advised Prasar Bharati to examine in detail various bottlenecks and impediments that stand in the way of a long drawn capital procurement cycle for machinery/equipment.

Prasar Bharati in its reply has stated that for streamlining the procurement procedure, efforts are afoot to cut short the timelines involved in the procurement process while diligently following the established codal procedures. In addition, both the Directorates (AIR & DD) have been advised to sort out the discrepancies pointed out by the concurring / approving authorities across the table forthwith so that the delay in exchange of information / clarification could be averted.

[M/o – I&B's I.D. No. 2/3/2009-B(Fin) dated 23.02.2010]

Recommendation (Para No. 25)

The Committee have persistently been recommending measures to the Government for restructuring of Prasar Bharati in their Reports. The Committee note that National Productivity Council (NPC) had been engaged by the Prasar Bharati to suggest suitable measures for organizational restructuring. The NPC has given the Report to Prasar Bharati. The Committee have also been informed that NPC made a presentation on its recommendations to the Board of Prasar Bharati. The recommendations of the Board are still awaited in the Ministry. The Committee also note that restructuring of Prasar Bharati was being deliberated upon by the previous Group of Ministers (GoM) which could not give their recommendations. A proposal to re-constitute the Group of Ministers has already been sent to the Cabinet Secretariat on 1st July, 2009 with reminder issued in September, 2009. Since the matter pertaining to Prasar Bharati is pending consideration of Group of Ministers, the Committee, at this stage, only urge the Government for early decision on the proposal so that the issues relating to organizational restructuring and other matters could be sorted out expeditiously.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT:

The Group of Ministers on Prasar Bharati has been re-constituted on 10th February 2010.

[M/o – I&B's I.D. No. 5/01/2009-BP&L dated 21.01.2010]

Recommendation (Para No. 26)

The Committee in their Forty-seventh Report had recommended Capital and Financial restructuring of Prasar Bharati. The same was reiterated in the Fifty-fifth Report. Pursuant to the Committee's recommendation, the matter was placed before the previous Group of Ministers constituted for Prasar Bharati. However, the Group of Ministers could not give its recommendations during its tenure. The Cabinet Secretariat is examining the request to re-constitute the Group of Ministers to consider all the issues, including Capital and Financial Restructuring of Prasar Bharati. The Committee hope that the Group of Ministers when constituted, will examine the functioning of Prasar Bharati in its entirety with a view to restructure the Corporation from financial, organisational and technological aspect so that the Corporation play an effective role in the discharge of its responsibilities.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

As the GOM has now been re-constituted, the matter of capital and financial restructuring will be placed before the GOM for consideration.

[M/o – I&B's I.D. No. 5/01/2009-BP&L dated 21.01.2010]

Recommendation (Para No. 29)

The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 was enacted with a view to regulate the operation of cable television network in the country to bring uniformity in their operation and to avoid undesirable programmes from being made available to the viewers and optimal utilization of this technology. The Government now proposes to restructure the above Act. The Committee have been informed that the recommendations of TRAI on 'restructuring of Cable TV services' have been received and the same are being examined by the Government with concerned Ministries/Departments. Based on the inputs given by TRAI and other Ministries/Departments of the Government, the Ministry is examining these recommendations. Since the proposal is under consideration of the Government, the Committee at this stage, can only request the Ministry to complete the process of consultation with all the stakeholders at the earliest. The Committee would like to be apprised about the definite timelines for completion of the proposal.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

The Government has been examining the recommendations of TRAI. Once the views of the Government are finalized on these recommendations, TRAI will be informed for further comments /recommendations as per provisions of TRAI Act. After receipt of the final recommendations on the views of the Government, the final action for amendment in the Act will start. The whole process is likely to take some more time.

[M/o – I&B's I.D. No. 5/01/2009-BP&L dated 21.01.2010]

**New Delhi
May, 2010
Vaisakha, 1932 (Saka)**

**RAO INDERJIT SINGH
Chairman
Standing Committee on
Information Technology**

Confidential

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 4th May, 2010 from 1500 hours to 1615 hours in Committee Room '62', First Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi.

P R E S E N T

Shri Rao Inderjit Singh - Chairman

Members

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri Milind Deora
4. Shri Charles Dias
5. Smt. Darshana Jardosh
6. Shri Mithilesh Kumar
7. Shri Inder Singh Namdhari
8. Shri Abdul Rahman
9. Shri Prem Das Rai
10. Shri Tathagata Satpathy
11. Dr. Bhola Singh
12. Shri Dhananjay Singh
13. Shri Sushil Kumar Singh

Rajya Sabha

14. Prof. Alka Balram Kshatriya
15. Shri Jesudas Seelam
16. Shri P. Rajeeve
17. Shri M.P. Achuthan

S E C R E T A R I A T

18. Shri T. K. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary
19. Smt. Sudesh Luthra, Director

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.

3. Thereafter, the Committee took up the following Draft Reports for consideration and adopted the same without any modifications:-

- (i) Draft Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in their First Report on Demands for Grants (2009-10) relating to the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Posts).

- (ii) Draft Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in their Second Report on Demands for Grants (2009-10) relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- (iii) Draft Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in their Third Report on Demands for Grants (2009-10) relating to the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Information Technology).
- (iv) Draft Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in their Fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2009-10) relating to the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications).

4. The Committee, then, authorized the Chairman to finalise the above Reports and present the same to the House on a date convenient to him.

5. The Committee also decided to undertake on-the-spot study tour during the month of June, 2010.

The Committee, then, adjourned.

**ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS/
OBSERVATIONS CONTAINED IN THEIR SECOND REPORT (FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

[Vide Paragraph No.5 of Introduction]

(i)	Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by the Government		
	Paragraph Nos:- 1,2, 4, 5,6, 7, 8, 9 ,10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22 & 23		
		Total	18
		Percentage	62.06
(ii)	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government		
	Paragraph No:- Nil		
		Total	Nil
		Percentage	0
(iii)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and require reiteration		
	Paragraph Nos:- 15, 16, 27 & 28		
		Total	04
		Percentage	13.80
(iv)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies are of interim nature:-		
	Paragraph Nos:- 3, 14, 21, 24, 25, 26 & 29		
		Total	07
		Percentage	24.14