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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(2017-18)**

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(2018-19)**

FORTY-FIFTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

March, 2018/Phalguna, 1939 (Saka)

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(2018-19)**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 13.03.2018

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 13.03.2018



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NEW DELHI**

March, 2018/Phalguna, 1939 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(2017-18)

Shri Anurag Singh Thakur - Chairperson

Lok Sabha

2. Shri L.K. Advani
3. Shri Prasun Banerjee
4. Shri Harishchandra alias Harish Dwivedi
5. Dr. Sunil Baliram Gaikwad
5. Shri Hemant Tukaram Godse
6. Dr. Anupam Hazra
7. Smt. Hema Malini
8. Dr. J. Jayavardhan
9. Shri P. Karunakaran
11. Shri Virender Kashyap
12. Shri Harinder Singh Khalsa
13. Dr. K.C. Patel
14. Shri Raosaheb Danve Patil
15. Smt. R. Vanaroja
16. Shri Paresh Rawal
17. Dr. Bhartiben D. Shyal
18. Shri Abhishek Singh
19. Shri D.K. Suresh
20. Shri Ramdas C. Tadas
21. **VACANT**

Rajya Sabha

22. Shri Raj Babbar
23. Dr. Subhash Chandra
24. Shri Suresh Gopi
25. Shri K.G. Kenye
26. Shri Santiuse Kujur
27. Smt. Kahkashan Perween
28. Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao
29. Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe
30. Shri Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar
31. Shri Beni Prasad Verma

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri R.C. Tiwari - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Y.M. Kandpal - Director
3. Smt. Geeta Parmar - Deputy Secretary
4. Shri Vivek Saini - Senior Executive Assistant

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Information Technology (2017-18), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Forty-Fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2018-19) of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

2. The Standing Committee on Information Technology (2017-18) was constituted on 1st September, 2017. One of the functions of the Standing Committee, as laid down in Rule 331E of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, is to consider the Demands for Grants of the Ministry/Department concerned and make a Report on the same to the House.

3. The Committee considered the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for the year 2018-19 which were laid on the Table of the House on 7 February, 2018. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on 21 February, 2018.

4. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 12 March, 2018.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for appearing before the Committee and furnishing the information that the Committee desired in connection with the examination of the subject.

6. The Committee would also like to place on record their appreciation of the assistance rendered to them by the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

7. For facility of reference and convenience, Observations/Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in Part-II of the Report.

New Delhi;
12th March, 2018
21st Phalgun, 1939 (Saka)

ANURAG SINGH THAKUR,
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on
Information Technology.

REPORT

PART-I

Introductory

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, through the mass communication media comprising radio, television, films, press and print publications, advertising and traditional modes of communication such as dance and drama, plays an effective role in helping the masses to have access to free flow of information. The Ministry is involved in catering to the entertainment needs of various age groups and focusing attention of the people on issues of national integrity, environmental protection, health care and family welfare, eradication of illiteracy and issues relating to women, children, minority and other disadvantaged sections of the society. The Ministry is divided into five wings i.e., the Information Wing, the Broadcasting Wing, the Films Wing, the Integrated Finance Wing and the Economic Wing. The Ministry functions through its 21 Media Units/ attached & subordinate offices, autonomous bodies and PSUs.

2. The Information Wing handles policy matters of the press and the print media and publicity requirements of the Government, general administration of the Ministry and matters related to Media Units under the Information Wing. Additionally, the wing also looks after matters relating to Broadcasting Content Regulations of private electronic channels, matters relating to Electronic Media Monitoring Centre, licensing of private T.V. channels and New Media Cell.

3. The Broadcasting Wing handles all matters relating to Broadcasting administration of Engineering and Programme wings of Prasar Bharati, matters relating to Broadcasting Content of Prasar Bharati and all other matters of Prasar Bharati. The wing also handles matters relating Community Radio, Broadcasting Development and Finance, FM Radio,

Digitisation of cable T.V., Broadcasting Policy & Legislation(Programme Code and Advertisement Code prescribed under CTNA).

4. The Film Wing handles matters relating to the Film Sector. It is involved in the production and distribution of documentary films, development and promotional activities relating to the film industry including training, organization of film festivals, import and export regulations, etc. The Integrated Finance Wing looks after the financial aspects of the Ministry and the Economic Wing looks after matters on Plan, Budget, Plan Coordination, RTI Matters, DBT, e-Office, O&M Activities and Periodic reporting on various issues to Cabinet Secretariat through online portal.

II. Implementation status of recommendations of the Committee contained in the 34th Report on Demands for Grants (2017-18)

5. The Standing Committee on Information Technology presented to the Lok Sabha their Thirty-Fourth Report on the 'Demands for Grants' (2017-18) relating to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting on 9th March, 2017. The Thirty-Ninth Report on Action Taken Notes by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in Thirty-Fourth Report on DFG(2017-18) was presented to Lok Sabha on 11th August, 2017. Out of the 17 recommendations contained in the said report, 15 recommendations were accepted by the Government. The Committee had reiterated on 02 recommendations. The final Action Taken Statement on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-Ninth Report was laid on the table of Parliament on 29 December, 2017.

III. Demands for Grants for 2018-19

6. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting presented the Demand for Grants under Demand No. 59 to Parliament for the year 2018-19 on 7 February, 2018 which covers the expenditure of the Ministry of Information

& Broadcasting and its Media Units including Prasar Bharati. It also contains provisions for Grants-in-Aid/budgetary support to the autonomous bodies under the administrative control of this Ministry. With the merger of Plan and Non-Plan from Financial Year 2017-18, expenditure henceforth has been categorized under following categories:

(A) Establishment Expenditure of the Centre *(It includes establishment expenditure of Main Secretariat and Media Units)*

(B) Central Sector Schemes; and

(C) Other Central Expenditure, including those on Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) and Autonomous Bodies *(It includes Establishment Expenditure of six Autonomous Bodies of this Ministry, viz., Children’s Film Society of India (CFSI); Film and Television Institute of India (FTII); Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI); Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC); Press Council of India (PCI) and Prasar Bharati.).*

7. The Budgetary Estimates and Revised Estimates for the year 2017-18 and Budgetary allocations for the year 2018-19, under different categories, are as under:

(Rs. in crore)

	BE 2017-18		RE 2017-18		BE 2018-19		% difference of BE 2018- 19 with reference to RE 2017-18	
	Reven ue	Capita l	Revenu e	Capit al	Reven ue	Capita l	Reven ue	Capita l
Category I. Establish ment	495.7 4	0.00	427.79	0.00	454.9 0	0.00	06.34 %	0.00

Expenditure of the Centre								
Category II. Central Sector Schemes	810.90	29.10	577.65	20.12	711.65	23.40	23.20%	16.30%
(a)Normal	726.70	29.10	517.02	20.12	637.31	23.40	-	-
(b)NER	84.20	0.00	60.63	0.00	74.34	0.00	-	-
	Total		597.77		735.05		22.97%	
Category III. Other Central Expenditure (Autonomous Bodies)	3073.26	0.00	2579.55	0.00	2899.03	0.00	12.39%	0.00%
Total (Cat. I+ Cat. II + Cat. III)	4379.90	29.10	3584.99	20.12	4065.58	23.40	13.41%	16.30%
	4409.00		3605.11		4088.98		13.42%	

It is seen from above that as per the Budget documents (2018-19), BE of Rs.4089 crore has been for the Ministry which is 7.25 % less than BE of Rs. 4409 crore for the current year 2017-18, though it is 13.42 % higher than RE of Rs. 3605.11 crore for 2017-18.

IV. Performance during the 12th Plan

8. A statement showing Sector-wise Proposed 12th Plan Outlay, Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and the Actual Expenditure is as under:-

(In Crore)

Name of the Sectors	Proposed Outlay (XII Plan)	Budget Estimates		Revised Estimates		Actuals (As per CCA)	
		Total BE (2012-13 to 2016-17)	Total NER	Total RE (2012-13 to 2016-17)	Total NER	Total Exp. (2012-13 to 2016-17)	Total NER
Information	1300	924.49	88.35	1056.47	86.35	1010.04	89.71
Film	1100	696.18	19.50	444.00	16.15	378.08	8.20
Broadcasting	14331	2908.86	348.70	2277.53	277.14	2217.09	232.20
Grand Total of Budgetary Support (Info + Film + Broadcasting)	16731	4529.53	456.55	3778.00	379.64	3605.21	330.11
IEBR (New Content Development Scheme of Prasar Bharati)	5000	1200.00	-	1000.00	-	-	-

to be funded by IEBR)							
OVERALL PLAN SIZE	21731	5729.53	456.55	4778.00	379.64	3605.21	330.11

It may be seen from above that BE of Rs. 4529.53 crore was reduced at RE stage to Rs. 3778 crore for the entire Plan period and out of the same, Ministry of I & B could spend Rs. 3605.21 crore which was 95.43% of the allocation. Also in respect of allocation for NER, out of RE of Rs. 379.64 crore for the entire Plan period, Ministry could spend Rs. 330.11 crore which was 86.95% of the allocation for NER.

9. As regards the reason for the shortfall, they are stated to be as under:
- Delay in approval of schemes during first two years of 12th Five Year Plan.
 - Delay in acquisition of land and sites for some of the projects as this depends on State Government where the concerned project is located.
 - Procedural delay in ordering of equipment or not supplying of equipment by supplier as per delivery schedule.
 - Due to cancellation of few tenders on administrative and technical grounds.

10. The Committee have further observed that during 2016-17, the allocations was increased from Rs. 800 crore at BE to Rs. 860 crore at RE stage mainly due to Cash Supplementary Grant of Rs. 20 crore for Directorate of Field Publicity (DFP) and Rs. 40 crore for Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP). However, the utilization remained Rs. 802.64 crore only (93.33%), which was almost at the level of allocation of the funds at BE stage.

11. The major reasons for the shortfalls are stated to be as under:

- Finalization of RE 2016-17 (Plan) in January 2017, thus less time left for spending.
- Long procurement process of Prasar Bharati for procurement of goods and services.
- Delay in Revised Cost Estimate (RCE) of scheme "Infrastructure Development Programme relating to Film Sector" and of scheme "National Museum of Indian Cinema" of Film Sector. The RCE of the scheme "Infrastructure Development Programme relating to Film Sector" was done on 16.12.2016 and of "National Museum of Indian Cinema" was done on 06.12.2016.

V. Allocation vis-à-vis Utilisation during 2017-18

12. A Statement showing Sector-wise Proposed outlay, Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and likely expenditure during 2017-18 is given as under:-

(In Crore)

Name of the Sectors	Proposed 2017-18		Budget Estimates 2017-18		Revised Estimates 2017-18		Likely Expenditure 2017-18	
	Proposed	NER	BE	NER	RE	NER	Exp	NER (Exp)
Information	242.15	27.87	180	15.00	191.64	20.00	191.64	20.00
Film	222.39	19.57	207	17.00	111.13	6.44	111.13	6.44
Broadcasting	498.00	60.20	453	52.20	295.00	34.19	295.00	34.19
Grand Total of Budgetary Support (Info+ Film + Broadcasting)	962.54	107.64	840.00	84.20	597.77	60.63	597.77	60.63
Overall Plan Size	962.54	107.64	840.00	84.20	597.77	60.63	597.77	60.63
IEBR (New Content Development Scheme of Prasar Bharati to be funded	IEBR was proposed for XII Five Year Plan only by the erstwhile Planning Commission. A proposal of Rs. 476.75 Crores for content funding of Kisan Channel and Arun Prabha Channel has been merged with in the Main Scheme namely "Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development". Now, a consolidated EFC proposal amounting to							

by IEBR)	Rs. 3290.23 Crore including Rs. 476.75 Crore for content funding of Kisan Channel and Arun Prabha Channel has been circulated to concerned Ministries/Departments on 31-01-2018.
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13. From Budget brief, it has been observed that for Central Sector Schemes, against BE of Rs.840 crore (comprising of Rs.726.70 crore as Normal and NER component of Rs. 84.20 crore) and RE of Rs.597.77 crore (comprising Rs. 537.14 crore as Normal and Rs. 60.63 crore as NER component), the utilization up to January, 2018 is Rs. 387.50 and for North East Region Rs. 20.31 crore (upto 31st December 2017), respectively.

14. Asked about the reasons for substantial reduction of the budget allocations at RE stage for the year 2017-18, it has been stated that the Ministry of Finance depending upon the priorities set out, availability of resources and expenditure trend of the Ministry, allocated the RE outlays during 2017-18 for the Ministry. Expenditure in case of some of the main Schemes of the Ministry could not be done in accordance with the BE. In case of National Film Heritage Mission (NFHM), the RE was fixed at Rs. 6.02 Crore against BE of Rs. 50 Crore as the entire Scheme is under review and all tender processes under NFHM have been put on hold. For Setting up of National Centre for Excellence for Animation, Gaming, Visual Effects and Comics (NCoE), RE stands at Rs. 1.54 Crore against BE of Rs. 60 Crore. The land for construction of NCoE has not been transferred by Maharashtra Govt. The Operating and Academic partners are yet to be finalized as no bid has been received. Activities for Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute (SRFTI), Itanagar and launch of Arun Prabha Channel in North East Region could not be undertaken because of difficult terrain in Itanagar and non-finalization of EFC Memo containing proposal for Content Development of Arun Prabha Channel respectively.

15. As regard the efforts to optimally utilize the funds at RE, it has been stated that the Ministry had tried to optimize the allocation of Rs. 597.77

crore amongst the schemes of Ministry by allocating funds to the Media Units in a rational manner and it is expected that the Ministry would be able to raise its level of expenditure significantly upto 31.3.2018 and utilize the allocated outlay earmarked for this Ministry. Further, regular review meetings are taken by Secretary (I&B), AS&FA and concerned Joint Secretaries to assess the shortfall in expenditure and to suggest the suitable measures for enhancing the expenditure.

16. As regards the reasons for the slow progress of the schemes, they are stated to be as under:

- Delay in acquisition of land and sites for some of the projects as this depends on State Government where the concerned project is located.
- Procedural delay in ordering of equipment or not supplying of equipment by supplier as per delivery schedule.
- Due to cancellation of few tenders on administrative and technical grounds.
- Some Schemes of the Ministry are being reviewed.
- Delay in selection of Project Management/Implementation Agency.
- Non-receipt of bids for selection of Academic partner.
- Delay in approval of Schemes.

17. It has been stated that the Ministry is expecting to raise its level of expenditure significantly upto 31.3.2018.

VI. Allocations of funds for the Financial Year 2018-19

18. The BE of Rs. 735.05 crore has been fixed for the financial year 2018-19. The details regarding Proposed Outlay and Budget Estimates for the various sectors of the Ministry of I &B viz. Information Sector, Film Sector and Broadcasting Sector are as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Name of the Sectors	Proposed (2018-19)	BE (2018-19)
Information	358.04	228.51
Film	368.94	165.84
Broadcasting	553.04	340.70
Grand Total of Budgetary Support (Info + Film +Broadcasting)	1280.00	735.05

19. When asked about the major thrust areas/objectives of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for the year 2018-19, these were stated to be:

- Digitalization of Prasar Bharati (AIR & Doordarshan);
- Expanding Community Radio stations in the country;
- Accelerated investment on Content Development of Prasar Bharati to strengthen public service broadcasting;
- Integrated approach to media campaign for better impact of Government messaging and its visibility on the field;
- Strengthening, upgradation and modernization of infrastructure in the Information and Film sectors; and
- Preservation, upgradation and propagation of India's filmic content by undertaking special projects like National Film Heritage Mission.

20. It has been stated that given the availability of resources and the set of priorities of the Government of India, the financial allocations have been made by the Ministry of Finance. However, the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting will try to optimize the reduced allocation of Rs. 735.05 crore amongst the schemes of the Ministry sector wise, by allocating funds to the Media Units in a rational manner to overcome the difficulty of reduced allocation and resource constraints. The Ministry, subject to the availability of the budget, will make all out efforts to fulfill its mandate. If felt necessary,

additional funds would be sought at the RE stage commensurate with the mandate given to the Ministry.

VII. Prasar Bharati

(i) All India Radio

21. The Committee have observed that in respect of All India Radio, against BE and RE of Rs. 154 crore and Rs.115 crore respectively, Rs. 65.41 crore have been utilized up to December, 2017. BE of Rs. 125.00 crore has been made for 2018-19.

22. Asked about the reasons for reduced allocations for the year 2017-18 at RE stage, it has been stated that allocations are decided for various wings of the Ministry, keeping in view trend of expenditure, actual requirement and availability of funds and inter-se priority, etc.

23. In order to optimally utilize the allocated funds during 2018-19, it has been stated that funds allotted during 2018-19 would be fully utilized with proper advance planning and timely actions. In this regard, purchase orders for 13 Nos. of new 10kW FM transmitters and associated equipment have already been placed. Order for 100 nos. 100Watt FM transmitters, studio items are likely to be placed by March 2018 & expected to be completed during 2018-19. Construction of new buildings at new sites are under progress and are likely to be completed during 2018-19.

(ii) Doordarshan

24. It has been observed that during 2016-17, out of Rs. 221 crore for undertaking various schemes of Doordarshan, Rs. 208.14 crore could be utilised. Further, during 2017-18, for undertaking Central Sector Scheme for Doordarshan, against BE and RE of Rs. 276 crore and Rs.167 crore, respectively, Rs. 44.59 crore have been utilized up to December, 2017(26.70% of utilization over RE). BE of Rs. 190.70 crore has been made for 2018-19.

25. The reasons for underutilization of funds during 2016-17 are stated to be on accounts of following:

- (a) SITC of compression system and monitoring system for earth station at Dehradun, Gorakhpur and Srinagar was delayed due to poor participation in tenders.
- (b) Misc. items viz. strengthening of towers etc. were delayed due to administrative reasons.

26. Further, the reasons for drastically reducing the allocation in respect of Doordarshan at RE, 2017-18, it has been stated that the allocation at RE stage of 2017-18 has been reduced due to non-materialization of projects given below:

- Digitalization of terrestrial transmitters.
- Providing Earth Station at 11 locations.
- Modernization of Earth Stations at various locations.
- Providing of Earth Station at CPC, Delhi
- HDTV Studio at Chennai & Kolkata.
- DTH Expansion.
- Providing of New DSNG terminals.
- Misc. items viz. completion of Amritsar tower etc.

27. To a specific query, it has been informed that out of Rs. 167 crore allocated during 2017-18, the likely utilisation of funds would be to the tune of Rs. 71.35 crore. The reasons for the shortfall are that with the introduction of GST, it was found that vendors were not participating in the higher value tenders, resulting in repeated extension of tender opening dates and delays. A meeting was organized with all potential bidders to resolve the issue. It was informed by the bidders that due to lack of

understanding on their part regarding some input tax credit issues, they were not in a position to firm up their bids. They were strongly advised to participate in the bids. Later on, tender document was to be revised and approved by Prasar Bharati with reference to the taxation clauses and commercial bid templates& bid submission dates were extended.

28. In respect of number of tenders, the Bids submitted by the firms were pre-GST. While placing the order after implementation of GST, the firms were asked to pass on tax credit benefit to Doordarshan as per anti-profiteering clause under GST Act. The vendors took a long time in passing on the tax credit benefits and certifying compliance to anti profiteering clause, as required by finance wing. There is also delay in obtaining WPC clearance.

29. The major areas got affected due to the above reasons are:

- Modernization of earth stations at various locations
- New Digital Satellite News Gathering (DSNG) terminals at 9 locations.

(iii) Modernisation, Augmentation and Replacement of satellite broadcast Equipment

30. Doordarshan is modernizing its Satellite Network Ground Infrastructure under 12th Plan scheme by way of replacement and upgradation of old, ageing equipment and introduction of spectrum efficient compression technique. The new Earth station and DSNGs being installed will be capable of HD transmission. Major projects included in above scheme are as under:

1. Setting up of New Earth Station at Gorakhpur
2. Modernization & Upgradation of Earth Station at 5 locations
3. Replacement of Existing IRDs with DVB-S2 based IRDs

4. New DSNGs at 9 locations

31. It has been observed that during 2016-17, Rs. 10 crore was allocated for the scheme, out of which only Rs. 8.07 crore was utilised. The reasons for the shortfall is stated to be that delays in SITC of compression system for Earth Station at Gorakhpur. The allocation could not be utilized fully in 2016-17 due to poor participation by bidders.

32. Further, during 2017-18, against the allocation of Rs. 21.31 crore allocated for the scheme, the likely utilization of funds upto 31.03.2018 is stated to be Rs. 10.00 crore. The major reasons for this shortfall is attributed to supply of DSNGs. Less number of DSNGs are expected to be supplied, as there was delay in processing of sanctions due to GST related issues & delay in obtaining WPC clearance.

33. The Committee enquired about the schemes of Doordarshan undertaken in NER during 2017-18 and proposed to be taken in 2018-19. In reply, it has been informed as under:

(A) Major Projects undertaken in NER during 2017-18

- (a) Augmentation of technical facilities for 24x7 DD-Arun Prabha satellite channel from DDK Itanagar
- (b) Procurement of 30000 DTH Sets for distribution in remote, tribal and border areas for reception of Doordarshan DTH signals. (2896 DTH Sets for NE)
- (c) New DSNGs – 4 nos
- (d) Provision of Studio production & post production equipment for DDK, Guwahati
- (e) Construction of Earth station buildings at Kohima & Imphal
- (f) Setting up of Digital HPTs at 7 places

(B) Major Projects proposed to be taken up in NER during 2018-19

- (a) Extension of TV Tower at Dibrugarh
- (b) Procurement of 30,000 DTH sets for remote, tribal & border areas of the country (2896 DTH sets for NE)
- (c) New DSNGs - 4 nos
- (d) Provision of Studio production & post production equipment for DDK Guwahati
- (e) Setting up of Digital HPTs-07

34. Asked about the likely utilization of funds allocated during the year 2017-18 (upto 31.03.2018), it has been informed that the likely utilization up to 31.03.2018 would be Rs. 11.05 crore which is about 15.50% of total projected expenditure of Rs. 71.35 crore during 2017-18. The reasons for the shortfall is stated to be delays in supply of DTH Set Top Boxes.

VII. Revenue Earnings

35. A statement showing the targets vis-à-vis achievements in respect of revenue receipts from 2012-13 to 2017-18 and revenue target during 2018-19 is as under:-

(Figures in Rs. crore)

Financial Year	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Revenue Target	1815.00	1996.00	2195.00	2212.00	1425.00 (net)	1388.00 (net)	1596.00
Gross Revenue generated	1552.90	1622.84	1537.36	1393.41	1504.82	1529.96 (Targeted)	
Net Revenue generated	1405.81	1472.53	1412.60	1267.12	1360.25	949.82*	
Revenues from Advertisem	1282.14	1228.79	1167.54	940.28	960.46	663.58*	

ents							
Other Sources#	123.67	243.74	245.06	326.84	399.79	286.24*	
Share of Revenue (Advertisement)	91%	83%	83%	74%	71%	70%	
Share of Revenue (Other sources)	9%	17%	17%	26%	29%	30%	

- **upto January, 2018*
- *# Other resources comprise of mainly sharing of slots over DD FreeDish slots and Infrastructure of DD and AIR with private FM broadcasters and Mobile operators. Generally, targets for these are not set separately and are made part of the total target of revenue.*

36. The Committee desired to know the reasons for the shortfall in achievement of the targets all these years. In reply, it has been stated that till 2015-16, aggressive Gross Revenue Projection/targets were set to motivate the sales/marketing teams of Prasar Bharati to realize the targeted revenues. However, in view of the engagement of Prasar Bharati in essential but non-remunerative broadcasting activities and the other market realities, it was observed that falling short from achieving the set targets was adversely affecting the morale of the sales/marketing teams and, therefore, proving counter-productive. Accordingly, it was decided to review the revenue projections to make them more realistic. In the subsequent years, the revenue-realization is much closer to the set targets.

37. It has simultaneously been informed that the revenue target of Rs. 1488 crore for the year 2017-18 has been revised to Rs.1388.00 crore. The revision was necessitated due to shortfall of revenues on account of auctioning of DD Free Dish slots and sale of time slots on DD National

channel being put on hold. Presently, repeat content and movies are being shown on DD National channel and other regional channels. In view of stressed financial position of Prasar Bharati, DD is not able to infuse new content on its channels which has resulted in attrition of commercial advertisers and a decline in commercial revenue. The revised revenue target of Rs.1388 crore is, however, likely to be achieved during 2017-18.

38. As regards the measures being taken/proposed by the Ministry/Prasar Bharati to enhance the revenue of the revenue receipts, they are stated to be as under:-

- Strengthening of sales and marketing teams of AIR and Doordarshan, including induction of sales/marketing professionals;
- Offering of turn-key solutions to various Ministries and Govt. departments for dissemination of various social development schemes administered by them;
- Sharing of infrastructure such as towers, studios, auditoria etc.
- Business Model for DTT network is being framed to rope in Private players and put to commercial use of the DTT network;
- Tie-ups with e-commerce sites for better monetization of AIR/DD archive products;
- Exploring the possibility of collaborating with companies having CSR Funds in order to contribute to the overall revenue generation of PB.
- Devising a new scheme for Content acquisition based on the best practices followed by Public Broadcasters around the globe and restructuring of Doordarshan to separate its Creative, Sourcing, and Marketing/Sales functions from its Operational/Administrative functions.
- Setting up of a task force for developing a new business model, in a time bound manner, for DD FreeDish based on a revenue sharing basis with interested partners.

39. In addition to the above, the following steps are being taken by AIR to boost revenue generation:

- Expanding the FM Rainbow network.
- Uniform frequency of FM Channels across the country to help in brand recall and brand loyalty.
- Maintaining channel identity of FM Channels;
- Insertion of local advertisements in relay stations of AIR for additional revenue;
- Monetization of Raagam Channel devoted to Indian classical music that has caught the imagination of music lovers.
- Monetisation of External Services Division directed to the Indian Diaspora settled worldwide.
- Revision of Tariff - The accent is on simplification and rationalization – With the addition of some new stations and up-scaling transmission time, there is scope for more advertising options

IX. Budgetary Allocations for North-Eastern Region

40. A statement showing the financial targets vis-a-vis achievements during the 12th Plan (in totality) for North East Region is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Name of the Sectors	Total Budget Estimates (NER) (2012-13 to 2016-17)	Total Revised Estimates (NER) (2012-13 to 2016-17)	Total Expenditure (NER) (2012-13 to 2016-17)
Information	88.35	86.35	89.71
Film	19.50	16.15	8.20
Broadcasting	348.70	277.14	232.20
Grand Total of Budgetary Support	456.55	379.64	330.11

41. A statement showing the financial targets for 2017-18 and 2018-19 for North East Region are as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the Sectors	Budget Estimates (NER) (2017-18)	Revised Estimates (NER) (2017-18)	Budget Estimates (NER) (2018-19)
Information	15.00	20.00	23.15
Film	17.00	6.44	5.00
Broadcasting	52.20	34.19	46.19
Grant	84.20	60.63	74.34

42. As regards the likely utilization of funds allocated, the Ministry is expecting that they would be able to raise its level of expenditure significantly upto 31.3.2018 and utilize the allocated outlay earmarked for this Ministry during the year 2017-18.

43. On being enquired about the schemes/activities under various sectors being undertaken by the Ministry in North-Eastern Regions, where there had been shortfalls are given as under:-

- **Infrastructure Development in SRFTI:** The terrain in Itanagar, where the land for the institute is situated, is difficult to reach. A bridge on the nearby river needs to be constructed for taking the activities forward.
- **Grant-in-aid to Prasar Bharati for Arun Prabha Channel:** Technical Facility for launch of the channel has been set up. However, a consolidated EFC proposal amounting to Rs. 3290.23 crore including Rs. 476.75 crore for content funding of Kisan Channel and Arun Prabha Channel has been circulated to concerned Ministries/Departments on 31-01-2018.

44. On the issue of delays in launching of the Arun Prabha channel, the DG, Doordarshan during evidence submitted as under:

" सर, अरुण प्रभा के बारे में दो चीजों के बारे में बताना चाहती हूँ। अरुण प्रभा का टेक्निकल सेट अप, हम लोग वहां गये और हम लोगों ने उसको एक साल पहले रेडी कर दिया है। *Technically, we are ready to play out Arun Prabha from Itanagar.* जो भी मैनपावर की रिक्वायरमेंट थी, जो भी मशीनरी की रिक्वायरमेंट थी, वह हमने रेडी कर दी है। हमें यह कहा गया कि इस चैनल को 25 दिसंबर, 2016 में लांच करना है और उस तरह से हमने अपनी पूरी तैयारी कर ली थी। हमने एडवर्टाइजमेंट देकर ट्रांसपेरेंट तरीके से बहुत अच्छे तरीके से प्रोड्यूसर से प्रोग्राम्स को भी कमेटी के थ्रू इवैल्युएट करके मंगवा लिया है और 113 प्रोड्यूसर्स को शार्ट लिस्ट किया। आप कंटेंट की बात कर रहे थे कि हमें नयी जेनरेशन के हिसाब से, लेकिन पब्लिक सर्विस को ध्यान में रखकर कंटेंट बनाना है, उस हिसाब से अरुण प्रभा के कंटेंट को प्लान किया गया है। उसमें आप देखेंगे तो ट्रैवलॉग्स हैं, रियलिटी शोज हैं, उसमें इंप्लायमेंट के बारे में यूथ को जानकारी देने के लिए इन प्रोग्राम्स की तैयारी कर दी गई है। हम टेक्निकली भी रेडी हैं, प्रोग्राम की साइड से भी रेडी हैं, लेकिन जो अभी तक हमें नहीं मिला है, वह है फंडिंग, इस चैनल को, इस प्रोग्राम को लांच करने के लिए। "

45. With regard to funding of the channel, it was elaborated as under:

सर, इस प्रोग्राम की एसएफसी करीब एक साल से चल रही है, जब से हम लोगों ने इसको पुश करना चालू किया है और हम इस एसएफसी को कई बार मंत्रालय में भी भेज चुके हैं थ्रू प्रसार भारती। सेक्रेटरी साहब ने बहुत इंटेस्ट लेकर, *As per his initiative, it has finally been moved.* अभी तक वह पैसा हमें नहीं मिला है। जिस दिन से हमें यह सैंक्शन होगा, *I have no hesitation in saying that within four months of time because* प्रोडक्शन टाइम में तीन महीने का टाइम लगता है। *We will be ready to launch the channel in a very good manner.*

सर, हम इस चैनल को रिपीट कंटेंट पर नहीं चलाना चाहते हैं। हम नहीं चाहते हैं कि एक चैनल चलायें और फिर यह कहें कि दूरदर्शन एक अच्छा काम नहीं कर सकता है। हमारी रिक्वेस्ट यही है कि अगर फंडिंग मिलेगी, तो *with a fresh content and fresh montage*, हम इसे रन कर सकेंगे।

45. Another witness supplemented as under:

"सर, यह ऑलरेडी ईएफसी का पार्ट है, एक अगली चिट्ठी भी गई है कि 14 दिन में आपको देना था। ईएफसी की मीटिंग होगी, चूंकि यह करीब 900 करोड़ है, तो फाइल एफएम तक जाएगी और यह सैंक्शन हो जाएगा। चूंकि इनके पास फंडिंग नहीं थी। फंडिंग तो जरूरी है, उसके बिना यह कुछ दिन चलेगा, उसके बाद रुक जाएगा। एक बार यह चालू हो तो यह कभी नहीं रुके, यह अरेंजमेंट हम लोग कर रहे हैं।"

X. Film Sector

(i) Setting up of National Centre for Excellence for Animation, Gaming, Visual Effects and Comics (NCoE)- (12th Plan Outlay Rs. 57.00 crore)

46. It is learnt that Ministry of Information & Broadcasting is in the process of setting up a National Centre of Excellence (NCoE) for Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming & Comics. This project is part of Budget Announcement made during the Budget Speech of 2014-15. NCoE is a 12th plan scheme for which in-principle approval of Planning Commission is available. The project is based on Public Private Partnership (PPP) model. The basic idea was to rope in private players to partner with Government to run the project. There were series of discussions with Ministry of Finance (Economic Affairs /Expenditure) and Planning Commission about the way forward and model to be adopted.

47. The objective of the project NCoE is stated to be to build a Centre for excellence at the national level to impart world class talent pool in India to cater to the requirements of the Indian industry and global players. The administrative approval for NCoE has been issued with a total outlay of Rs. 167.70 crore, to be implemented in a four year period from 2016-17 to 2019-20, as per the appraisal and recommendation of the Standing Finance Committee. Consequent to discussions with stake holders and trade bodies like Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) and other

stake holders, Media & Entertainment Skills Council (MESC) which is working towards addressing the skill gap requirement is entertainment and media industry and FICCI to assist the Government towards realizing the project.

48. It has been observed that during 2016-17, Rs. 5.10 crore was allocated under the scheme, however, only Rs. 39 lakh was utilised. Further, during 2017-18, Rs. 60 crore was allocated and only Rs. 60 lakh was utilized upto December, 2017. Funds of Rs. 45 crore have been allocated during 2018-19 for the scheme.

49. When asked about the various reasons for under-utilisation of funds during 2016-17, the year-wise Budget allocation for NCoE is given as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Year	As per SFC	BE	RE	Actual Exp./likely Exp.
2016-17	0.50	5.10	1.00	0.39
2017-18	130.80	60	1.54	0.70*
2018-19	27.25	2.12		
2019-20	09.15			

**Committed expenditure is due on account of payment to KPMG for operating expenditure*

50. The reduction in budget allocated during 2016-17 to 2018-19 is stated to be due to the following reasons:

- The land at Mumbai for construction of campus of NCoE-AVGC has not been transferred to this Ministry.
- The short courses proposed to be commenced from the academic year 2017-18 could not be started since the operating partner is yet to be finalized and no bid has received for academic partners.
- Further, global tender for the identification of academic partner was issued but no bid has been received.

- There is likely situation that no further expenditure is envisaged to be incurred till 31.03.2018.

51. It has been stated that in the absence of academic partner, the purpose of setting up of NCoE would not be achieved. Hence, it was proposed to revisit the plan scheme ab-initio. Therefore, till the direction and objective of the setting up of NCoE is finalised, the optimal utilisation of the fund could not be formalised.

(ii) Piracy in Films/Anti-Piracy initiatives

52. FICCI-KPMG Report of 2017 has estimated that as much as INR of 180 billion annually is lost due to film piracy accompanied by loss of 6000 jobs per year. In order to address the issue, the 12th Plan scheme was approved.

53. It has been stated that the scheme proposes to have an effective legal mechanism in place to combat piracy and at the same time create awareness of the effects of piracy on the economy among the consumers. Rs. 1.00 crore has been allocated for the scheme during 2018-19.

54. In this context, the Committee desired to know about the Anti-Piracy initiatives taken by the Ministry during the 12th Five Year plan and also in the year 2017-18. In reply, it has been stated that the Ministry of I & B had introduced a Plan Scheme for Anti-Piracy initiatives under the 12th Plan. The Plan Scheme had been approved by Secretary, I&B. The plan scheme envisages following activities:

- Dissemination of multi-media campaigns on piracy through audio-visual media, internet, print media, etc.
- Training programmes and workshops to sensitize police, Judicial, administrative officials, multiples and cinema hall owners about the Copyright Act.

- Conduct of research on the effects of piracy and to enable development as well as implementation of public-private strategies to combat piracy.
- A dedicated web portal.
- Production of a film/documentary on anti-piracy.
- Engaging with Ministry of Human Resource Development with the goal of including anti-piracy awareness material in the curriculum of the schools and colleges.
- Road shows/street plays on creating awareness among society.
- Programmes on building awareness in Schools, Colleges through debates/essay writing/painting competitions.

55. The Committee further desired to know about the allocations made during the 12th Plan period and during 2017-18. In response, it has been stated that Rs. 2 crore was allocated during 12th plan period. However for the Financial Year 2017-18, an amount of Rs. 1 lakh was allotted under Anti-Piracy Initiatives. This fund could not be utilized as no activity was conducted due to the problems and challenges in anti-piracy initiatives. As stated, there was no under- utilization of the fund as only token allocation was made in the year 2017-18.

56. With regard to the allocation of Rs. 1 crore during 2018-19 and how the Ministry propose to optimally utilise the allocated amount, it has been stated that during the year 2018-19, the following activities have been envisaged under Anti-Piracy initiatives:

- Stakeholders/industry/bodies/technical expertise consultation meetings/ Workshops/Networking (Associated in developing Anti-Piracy mechanism)
- Exploring new media and technical anti-piracy options.

- Collaboration with agencies at government and private sector along with IT/piracy expert as resource person
- Module and application development on Piracy issues
- Documentaries, PSAs, Info based video
- Uniform message delivery on complex issue of piracy. Consultants will be hired as per requirements.

57. As regards the constraint/difficulties being faced by the Ministry in their efforts to fulfill the mandate of the scheme, it has been stated that there is a requirement to coordinate with various Ministries/department to combat the problem of anti-piracy. Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology has to amend Section 69 A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 to provide for executive action for site blocking in relation to copyright infringement. There is a constant threat of online piracy of films. It has been brought out that the films are available online within few hours of release, causing huge monetary loss to the industry as well as to the exchequer. The content feeds are from website overseas. The Copyright Act 1957 as amended in 2012 provides civil remedies (Chapter XII Section 54-62) as well as criminal remedies [Chapter XIII Section 63-70 to the copyright holder and clause (c) of subsection 1 of section 52 of Copyright Act, 1957 read with rule 75 of Copyright Rule 2013 are the rules which deal piracy of films. Further for preventive measures, there exists enforcement IPR cells, nodal officers in States/UTs to deal with enforcement matters. Camcording is a term used to describe the unauthorized recording of movies inside a theatre. It has been brought out that approximately 90% of the new releases appear online illegally due to camcording. A matter to introduce anti-camcording provisions in the Cinematograph Act, 1952 is under consideration at this Ministry. Department of Telecom may facilitate a voluntary arrangement for regulating illegal online activities.

58. As regards measures taken to create awareness among the consumers with regard to the effects of piracy on the economy, it has been stated that Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM) has already taken initiative to raise consumer awareness on piracy. CIPAM has taken initiative for making short videos by eminent personalities which can be used in the campaign.

(iii) National Film Heritage Mission (NFHM)

59. National Film Heritage Mission (NFHM) is a Plan Scheme to restore, digitize and archive films and filmic material and is being implemented through the National Film Archive of India (NFAI). Administrative approval for implementation of the Plan Scheme was issued on 24.11.2014 to undertake preservation and restoration of India's film heritage in a Mission Mode. The Scheme is spread over 2014-15 to 2020-21 and envisaged at a total cost of Rs.597.41 Crore. The objectives of NFHM are as under:

- To undertake film condition assessment of the film collection and to ascertain the left over life of the film.
- Preventive conservation of 1,32,000 film reels.
- 2k/4k picture and sound restoration of 1086 landmark feature films and 1152 short films and recording of new picture and sound inter-negatives of each film.
- Digitization of 1160 feature films and 1660 shorts.
- Construction of archival and preservation facilities for preservation of material restored under NFHM dust free, low humidity and low temperature conditions at NFAI campus, Pune.
- Training workshops and courses in field of conservation, preservation and archiving in coordination with international agencies that are experts in this field.

60. It has been observed that during 2016-17, Rs. 30 crore was allocated for the scheme, however, Rs. 10.83 crore was spent. During 2017-18, Rs. 50 crore was allocated, however, Rs.5.11 crore was spent upto 29.01.2018. During 2018-19, BE of Rs. 57.78 crore has been fixed.

61. When asked about the reasons for underutilization of funds during the year 2016-17, it has been stated that at the commencement of the Plan Scheme it was assessed that the Executing agencies for the works like Film condition assessment of the film reels, Preventive Conservation of film reels and Digitization of Film reels would be in place during 2016-17. However, the executing agency could only be engaged for the work of 'Film condition assessment of the film reels' after due government procedure during 2016-17, while the tender process for other activities is under process. This led to less utilization of allotted funds under RE 2016-17.

62. Further, the likely utilization of funds allocated during the year 2017-18 upto 31.03.2018 would be Rs.6.02 crore and accordingly the RE 2017-18 has been reduced to Rs. 6.02 crore. The reasons for the shortfalls are stated to be that major RFPs for preventive conservation of film reels, digitization of films, 2K/4K picture and sound restoration of landmark feature films and short films, end-to-end IT Software, CCTV implementation, etc. were proposed to be floated during 2017-18 for which allocation of Rs.50.00 crore was made for the financial year 2017-18. However, the entire scheme is under review and all tender processes under NFHM have been put on hold until the review. Therefore, the funds allocated under BE 2017-18 could not be utilized during the financial year 2017-18 and RE 2017-18 has been reduced to Rs.6.02 crore.

63. The Committee categorically asked about the strategy adopted to fully utilize the allocated funds during the year 2018-19 in view of the trend in

last two years of under-utilisation of funds allocated. In reply, it has been stated that during 2018-19, BE of Rs.57.78 crore has been allocated. Once the review of activities under NFHM is complete, it will be ensured to speed up the various tender processes for appointment of executing agencies as per Government procedure, GFR rules and CVC guidelines. Ministry approvals will be timely sought and conveyed for effective implementation of the NFHM Scheme and proper utilization of allotted funds.

(iv) Production of films and documentaries in various Indian Languages-production of Children's films (CFSI)

64. During 2018-19, Rs. 25 crore (including Rs.1.0 crore for North East Region) has been allocated for production of Children's films by CFSI, documentaries by Films Division and films by National Film Development Corporation (NFDC). However, out of Rs. 7.9 crore allocated for the scheme during 2017-18, only Rs. 4.65 crore are likely to be utilized upto 31.03.2018.

65. As regards the reasons for enhancing the budget during 2018-19, it has been stated that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Ministry of Information & Broadcasting & National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) for execution of plan scheme "Production of films in various Indian languages" to take up the production projects. Further Media Units have proposed to increase the production of films for the year 2018-19 and hence budget has been increased.

66. It has been stated that in order to optimally utilize the funds, it will be ensured to speed up the selection process for effective implementation of the Plan schemes of production of documentary films. Films will be produced in strict time bound manner to ensure full utilization of allocated funds.

NFDC will invite scripts following due process & calling for scripts will be done on NFDC website.

XI. Information Sector

(a) Indian Institute of Mass Communication

(i) Upgradation of IIMC to International Standards

67. The Committee have observed that the Central Sector Scheme "Upgradation of IIMC to International Standard" was included in the 11th Five Year Plan and approval was accorded for a total amount of Rs.62.00 crore, out of which the Government grant support was pegged at Rs.51.50 crore. The proposals under scheme included upgradation of IIMC i.e. construction of additional floors on the existing main building and lecture block at the IIMC Campus, New Delhi, construction of new buildings on the vacant land at the IIMC Campus, New Delhi, construction of new girls & boys hostel, Guest House and staff quarters at the IIMC Campus, Dhenkanal as well as the starting of four new Regional Campuses of IIMC in the states of Maharashtra, Mizoram, Kerala and Jammu & Kashmir from temporary premises to be made available free of cost by the respective State Governments.

- While all other Plan activities in Delhi and Dhenkanal have been completed, construction of new buildings on the vacant land at the IIMC Campus, New Delhi is still pending due to non- clearance of the building plans by various civic authorities. At present clearance is awaited from Ridge Management Board, Govt. of NCT Delhi.
- Two new Regional Campuses at Amravati and Aizawl became operational from August, 2011 while two more Regional Campuses at Jammu and Kottayam became operational from August, 2012. All four new Regional

Campuses are presently located in temporary premises provided by the respective State Governments / Universities free of cost.

68. On being specifically asked about the allocation vis-a-vis utilization of funds for the scheme during 2016-17 and 2017-18, it has been stated that for the FY 2016-17, IIMC was allocated Rs. 1.85 crore under the scheme, however, IIMC could utilise only Rs. 56 lakhs only. Further, during 2017-18, against BE and RE of Rs. 4 crore and 2 crore, respectively only Rs. 8 lakh has been spent up to 31 January, 2018. Therefore, unspent balance as on 31 January, 2018 is Rs. 3.21 crore.

69. It has been informed that the buildings plans for construction of new buildings at New Delhi campus of IIMC are pending for clearance with various civic authorities Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Delhi Urban Arts Commission (DUAC) and Ridge Management Board (RMB). IIMC has already submitted necessary documents and the matter is pending for want of NOC from DDA (Institutional Land) for further clearance. IIMC is vigorously pursuing the matter with all the civic agencies for expeditious clearance/approval.

70. In order to expedite the clearances from the concerned Civic Authorities, the issue has also been included by the Ministry of I&B in the list of projects requiring the intervention of Chief Minister of Delhi. Also, IIMC has taken up the matter with the office of Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Delhi for expediting the clearance/approval from the concerned civic authorities of Govt. of NCT of Delhi for building plans related to construction of additional building at New Delhi Campus of IIMC.

71. During 2018-19, Rs. 3.00 crore has been allocated under the Scheme "Upgradation of IIMC to International Standards". As stated, utilization will depend upon obtaining NOC from Ridge Management Board.

(ii) Opening up of regional centres of IIMC:

It has been informed that the Central Sector Scheme "Opening of New Regional Campuses of IIMC" was included in the 12th Five Year Plan and approved for an amount of Rs.94.00 crore, out of which the Government grant support was Rs.90.00 crore. Proposals under this scheme included construction of permanent campuses for the four new Regional Campuses of IIMC on land to be provided by the respective State Government free of cost.

- For Aizwal Campus, IIMC had entered into MoU with CPWD for construction of buildings. The contract has been awarded and work had commenced in last week of September, 2015. The physical progress of works is 65 percent till 3rd quarter of FY 2017-18.
- So far as IIMC Kottayam Campus is concerned, Government of Kerala has handed over about 10 acres of land at village Pampady, Kottayam Distt. to IIMC free of cost for setting up its Regional Campus in Kottayam. IIMC entered into an MOU with CPWD for construction of buildings at Kottayam as deposit work in June 2016. However, the construction got delayed due to litigations during FY 2016-17. Therefore, the construction work could be started only after the resolution of litigations. There has been approximately 40% physical progress at site upto 3rd quarter of FY 2017-18.
- 15.2 acres of land at Jammu was handed over to IIMC free of cost on 24th May, 2016 by Govt., of J&K. The Project for construction of the regional centre has been assigned to CCW (AIR), Ministry of I&B. At present, the work for construction of boundary wall is in progress.

However, the same has got delayed due to litigations. The construction of permanent campus would begin after the resolution of litigations.

- 15 acres of land at Amravati has been handed over to IIMC free of cost on 29th June, 2016. Project for Amravati has also been assigned to CCW (AIR) Ministry of I&B. The Consultant for preparation of Project Report, preparation of structural drawings etc. has already been appointed. The pre-investment activities viz. topographical survey of the land, soil investigation etc. shall commence shortly.

72. It has been observed that during 2016-17, Rs. 13.00 crores were allocated under the scheme "Opening up of regional centres of IIMC" and the funds were fully utilised. Further, during 2018-19, Rs. 13.00 crores has been allocated under the scheme. Out of Rs. 13.00 crores allocated under the Scheme, Rs. 2.00 crores has been allocated under the North East component. As stated, the construction of permanent campuses at Aizawl and Kottayam is in full swing and is likely to be completed during 2018-19. Construction of permanent campuses at Jammu and Amravati is likely to commence during 2018-19 and the funds allocated will be fully utilized.

(b)Development Communication & Information Dissemination(DCID)

73. The Committee have observed that Development Communication & Information Dissemination(DCID) have four components , Viz. Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity(DAVP), Directorate of Field Publicity(PIB), Song and Drama Division(S&DD) and Social Media Platform(MS). As per the decision taken in the Ministry sub-schemes of 'Development Communication & Information Dissemination(DCID)' have been merged and a single line Budget Entry has been made for DCID.

74. During 2016-17 for all the sub-schemes under DCID, against the allocation at RE stage of Rs. 220.10 crore (Normal), the utilisation was Rs.

210.30 crore. Further, during 2017-18, against the allocation at RE stage of Rs. 155.62 crore, the utilisation of funds up to 31.03.2018 is 93.21 crore . BE of Rs. 182 crore has been fixed for 2018-19.

75. It has further been informed that during 2018-19, in the sub-scheme, Direct Contact Programme by DFP, one more component viz. Direct Integrated Communication Campaign (DICC) has been added besides (a) Special Outreach Programmes (SOPs) and (b) Infrastructure Support to Direct Contact Programme (ISDCO). DICC aims at raising levels, awareness, empowering and creating an enabling environment for the farmers, women, youth, and the disadvantaged section of the people in the 150 districts identified as most backward in the country 50 districts which are affected by LWE with IEC programmes, through intensified communication campaigns. DICC component had been proposed to work on the similar lines of Pilot Project to supplement the Special Outreach Programmes through intensified campaign with the objective to cover huge masses at the grass root level. Under the DICC component, the programmes would be conducted through the hired private professional agencies with expertise in marketing and having experience of rural communication outreach programmes. It had been proposed to implement DICC through Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Ltd. (BECIL), Mini Ratna, a Central Public Sector Enterprise of the Government of India to provide the necessary administrative support.

76. It has been informed that Rs. 84.23 crore was proposed during 2018-19 to conduct 3250 SOPs and 30000 programmes under DICC. However, the outlay has been reduced to Rs. 8 crore only. It has been informed that though it was proposed to undertake 30000 programmes/events under DICC component with the Technological and IT support for conducting Direct Communication Activities by BECIL. However, keeping in view the Budgetary Allocations for 2018-19 to Ministry of I&B, the targets in respect of DICC component would be revised.

77. Further the sub-scheme, 'Media Outreach Programme and Publicity for Special Events(PIB), has been designed to inform and empower potential beneficiaries of the development programmes to enable them to participate in and avail of the benefits of these schemes. It reaches out to the regional media which is in more direct contact with the target population. It has components; viz. Media Interactive Sessions, Press Tours and publicity for Special Events like IFFI and PBD.

78. It has been observed that under the scheme "Media Outreach Programme and Publicity for Special Events", out of Rs. 80 lakh allocated for the scheme in NER for 2017-18, only Rs. 20.60 lakh were spent till December, 2017. The likely expenditure as on 31 March, 2018 is stated to be Rs. 24 lakh.

XII. Broadcasting Sector (other than Prasar Bharati)

79. It has been observed that Rs. 23.00 crore were allocated during 2017-18 for execution of various schemes/projects under broadcasting Sector (other than Prasar Bharati). The allocation was however reduced to Rs. 13.00 crore at RE. The utilisation up to January, 2018 is only Rs. 7.20. BE for 2018-19 is proposed at Rs. 25.00 crore.

(i) Supporting Community Radio Movement in India

80. Community Radios in India were started after the first policy for Community Radios was approved in the year 2002. This policy allowed only Educational Institutions to set up Community Radios. This policy was broad-based in 2006 when grassroots organizations like NGOs and other Not-for-Profit organizations were also allowed to set up Community Radios in India. In the Twelfth Five Year Plan, Government introduced a new scheme namely "Supporting Community Radio Movement in India". Objectives of the scheme are:

- a. To strengthen new and existing CR Stations with resources, capacity and technology so that they could provide access and voice to marginalized communities.
- b. To promote growth of CRS, especially in remote and rural areas, so that people living in these areas could have access to a meaningful medium of broadcast.
- c. To promote socio-economic and cultural development of communities as CRS is a powerful medium for social mobilization.

81. It has been observed that during 2016-17, out of Rs. 4 crore of allocated funds for the scheme, only Rs. 1.2824 crore have been utilised. During 2017-18, Rs. 4 crore were allocated but only Rs.0.3725 crore could be utilized upto December, 2017. For the year 2018-19, Rs. 4 crore have been proposed for allocation.

82. The major areas of shortfall and the reasons thereof during the year 2016-17 have been stated to be as under:-

- (i) National Sammelan and 02 Regional Sammelans for Community Radio could not be held due to administrative reasons. Further, Community Radio Awards which used to be distributed during the National Sammelan not distributed.
- (ii) The funds earmarked for capacity building of community radio stations also could not be utilized.
- (iii) Change in the policy for financial grant-in-aid was proposed to expedite the process of release of funds. All eligible CR Stations were asked to submit their applications as per the new formats.

83. On being asked about the likely utilization of funds allocated during the year 2017-18, the details were given as under:-

(Figures in crore)

Object Head (60.111.01)	Likely Utilization till 31.03.2018
Establishment	
Grant-in-aid-General	0.20
Professional Services	0.30
Other Administrative Expenses	0.30
Object Head (2552.802.01)	Likely Utilization till 31.03.2018 (NE)
Other Administrative Expenses	0.09
Professional Services	0
Grant-in-aid-General	0
Total	0.89

84. The major areas of shortfall and the reasons thereof during the year 2017-18 are as under:

- (i) National Sammelan and 02 Regional Sammelans for Community Radio could not be held due to administrative reasons. In addition, Community Radio Awards which were used to be distributed during the National Sammelan could not distributed.
- (ii) Furthermore, out of the 08 proposed Awareness Workshops only 02 Workshops have been conducted and some more are proposed to be held in March, 2018. Remaining workshops could not be organized due to administrative reasons and practical limitations.
- (iii) Due to ongoing reforms in the policy for application for financial grant, grants could not be released to any applicant.

88. Regarding measures being taken to optimally utilize the allocations made for the scheme during 2018-19, it has been stated that simplification of procedure has been done for release of grants. Earlier, an in-principle approval of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting was required by the

applicant before purchasing the equipment. Now no prior approval for release of grant is required from the Ministry. The eligible organisations would be required to apply only for release of grant after setting up of Community Radio Station (CRS) and operationalising it for 3 months. Already operational stations may apply for release of grant immediately after purchasing and installation of equipment.

85. During the course of evidence, the Committee while appreciating the promotion of community radio due to delivery of good results in several districts, however suggested the Ministry to conduct a study about the impact of community radio on what exactly they are disseminating, whether people are receiving them in a proper spirit or not, what are the contents, the mechanisms for monitoring of the contents, etc. To this, the Secretary, I & B reacted as under:

".....As far as the community radio initiative, it is very potential; it is very laudable. We are moving in that direction but then, you are very right in saying, has there been any study? We always have a fear that if somebody, who is unscrupulous, takes it, he can create havoc. Only recently, our Minister spoke to the Army Chief and said, in border areas, why do not your organisations or your canteens, whoever is there, do not make use of this and create that community radio and popularise your own work? So, they are getting in touch with us so that we can move in a very focussed manner....."

(ii) Strengthening of Electronic Media Monitoring Centre (EMMC)

86. During the 12th plan period EMMC has shifted to its own building at Soochna Bhawan. The centre has been equipped with state of art technology to record and monitor around 900 Channels. EMMC records and monitor the permitted channels. In addition to this, EMMC has been providing / sending real-time information and SMS alerts to M/o I&B, PMO, Cabinet Secretariat,

MHA and other Ministry / Departments on need based and information basis. During election time, EMMC monitors channels and provide information to Election Commission of India with a dedicated team of monitors / senior monitors and senior officers.

87. It has been observed that during the year 2016-17, Rs.8.90 crore was allocated for the scheme and out of which Rs. 8.73 crore has been utilised. Reason for the shortfall has been given as to the decision taken to put on hold the proposed renovation of the 11th floor. It was considered to consolidate other units requirement in it. Hence, Rs. 2 crore allocated under Capital section had been surrendered during 2016-17. It may further be seen that the same reason was given for under-utilisation of funds allocated during 2017-18, when against the allocation of Rs.10 crore, Rs. 5.40 crore (as on 31.12.2017) could be spent and Rs. 2 crore allocated under Capital section had been surrendered during 2017-18. BE of Rs. 18.10 crore has been fixed during 2018-19.

88. Now with budgetary allocation of Rs. 18.10 crore during 2018-19, EMMC intends to install Logging and monitoring facility for 100 Private Satellite TV channels and 150 DTH platform services channels during this financial year. In order to optimally utilize the allocations made for the scheme during 2018-19, MoU to this effect is proposed to be entered with BECIL who has been assigned to implement the project on turnkey basis.

89. It has further been informed that the amount of Rs. 2 crore allocated under capital section will be utilized for purchase of Machinery & Equipment for enhancing monitoring capacity by 100 TV channels and logging and monitoring facility for 150 Dish TV channels.

90. The state has a duty to protect its citizens from broadcast of undesirable content. As per mandate given, it is the legitimate function of the Ministry to regulate the content and to ensure that the content that appears on private satellite TV channels are in consonance with the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed there under. The up-linking and down linking guidelines for channels targeting Indian viewers also require constant monitoring for any apparent violation and remedial action thereto.

(iii) Mission Digitisation of Cable TV Network

91. The Plan Scheme namely "Mission Digitisation" was approved with the objective to implement Cable TV Digitisation across the country in four phases. The sun-set of the Cable TV Digitisation has been over w.e.f. 01.4.2017. However, as per MIS report, only 87% Set Top Boxes have been seeded so far because Phase IV cover small town, rural areas, remote and hilly inaccessible areas where laying of optical fibre is not feasible. To ensure full implementation of Cable TV Digitization, the Ministry has proposed to continue the 12th Plan Scheme "Mission Digitisation" up to 31.03.2020 with an outlay of Rs.12.70 crore. The proposal for continuation of the Scheme is under submission for approval of competent authority. The preliminary action on the following proposed activities has already been initiated:

- (i) Maintenance of the exclusive website of '**digitalindiamib**'
- (ii) Maintenance of software of Management Information System (MIS) for seeding data of STBs.
- (iii) Preliminary action has already been initiated for developing of the Centralized Monitoring System for collection of data from individual cable TV subscribers in order to ensure better dispute resolution, grievance redressal of consumers and to bring transparency.
- (iv) Developing of App based training modules for Cable TV Operators.

- (v) Deployment/engaging of Team/Agency for collection of data on Cable TV digitization which will report on (i) carriage of analog signals, (ii) carriage of unencrypted signals, (iii) carriage of unauthorized channel and (iv) non-carriage of mandatory channels by cable operators.
- (vi) Continuation of Head/Regional Units along with Staffs.

92. It has been observed that during 2016-17, Rs. 3 crore were allocated for the scheme, out of which Rs. 2.26 crore have been utilized. The reason for the shortfall is stated to be various court cases filed in High Courts challenging the cut-off date of Phase III of Cable TV Digitization. Some of the High courts had issued stay order in the matter. All these court cases could be disposed off by December 2016. Hence, Ministry could undertake some of the assigned activities. Therefore, there was shortfalls in the utilization of allocated funds during the F.Y 2016-17.

93. With regard to optimally utilise the funds of Rs. 2 crore allocated during 2018-19 for the scheme, it has been stated that after approval of continuation of Scheme, the action on the proposed activities will be initiated and the amount allocated for the year 2018-19 for the Scheme will be fully utilised.

PART-II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Budgetary Allocations for the financial year 2018-19

The Committee observe that the total budgetary allocations of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, for the financial year 2018-19 as has been reflected in the Demand No.59 is to the tune of Rs. 4088.98 crore. Out of the total allocation, the Central Sector Schemes accounts for Rs. 735.05 crore and Establishment Expenditure of the Centre and other Central Expenditure accounts for Rs. 3353.93 crore. The Committee further observe that though the allocation of funds for the year 2018-19 is 13.42 % higher than the RE of Rs. 3605.11 crore for the year 2017-18, it is still 7.25% less than the BE of Rs. 4409 crore for 2017-18. The Committee also observe the disturbing trend of less utilization of the allocated funds by the Ministry year after year. With reference to the expenditure made on Central Sector Schemes during the 12th Five Year Plan period, the Committee observe that there is a consistent pattern of expenditure much lower than the allocations made at BE stage as is evident from the fact that against the BE of Rs.905 crore each in 2012-13 and 2013-14, the amount spent was Rs.612.10 crore and 715.22 crore respectively. Similarly, against the BE of Rs.1005.00 crore, 914.53 crore and 800 crore for the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and

2016-17, the amount actually spent was Rs.740.78 crore, 734.50 crore and 802.69 crore respectively. Thus the total expenditure of Rs.3605.33 crore on the Central Sector Schemes during 12th Plan Period (2012-13 to 2016-17) has been much less than the allocation of funds of Rs.4529.53 crore at BE stage.

The underutilization of the allocations is a serious reflection on the functioning of the Ministry which apparently indicate not only failure of the Ministry in timely execution of their various schemes and projects but also on the entire budgetary exercise undertaken by them as the Ministry could not make accurate estimation of their requirements even at RE stage also. The Committee's analysis of the various schemes of the Ministry under all its sectors in the subsequent paragraphs clearly reinforces this observation. The Committee would, therefore, strongly recommend the Ministry to fine tune their budgetary exercise so that estimated requirements of funds at BE stage are close to accurate in future. The Committee would also like to emphasize that the Ministry should make advance planning so that the funds of Rs. 735.05 crore allocated for Central Sector Schemes for the financial year 2018-19 are optimally utilized.

II. Performance during the 12th Plan

2. The Committee's analysis reveal that the total allocations for 12th Plan Period to three sectors of the Ministry viz. Information

sector, Film sector and Broadcasting sector was Rs.4986.08 crore(including NER component) at BE which was reduced to Rs.4157.64 crore at RE stage. As against this, the Ministry could utilize only Rs. 3935.11 crore which was 78.92% of the BE and 94.64% of the RE. Thus, the actual utilization was less by Rs. 1050.97 crore with reference to BE and Rs. 222.53 crore with reference to RE. The reasons for the under-utilization of funds have been attributed to be the delays in approval of the schemes during the first two years of the 12th Plan.

The Committee are perturbed to note that the delays in approval of the schemes in various sectors of the Ministry have adversely affected their implementation leading to substantial shortfall in achieving the physical and financial targets. The Committee are of the firm opinion that the preparatory works should have been completed and necessary approvals should also have been taken much in advance by the Ministry so that the schemes could have been effectively implemented well in time. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend the Ministry to develop a mechanism within the Ministry so that all necessary ground works are completed well in time and the funds allocated for the Schemes/projects are optimally utilized.

III. Allocations vis-à-vis utilisation of funds during the financial year 2017-18

3. The Committee observe that during the financial year 2017-18, allocation of funds of Rs.840 crore (Rs.755.80 crore as Normal and Rs. 84.20 crore as NER component) had been made at BE stage for the Central Sector Schemes of the Ministry. However, the allocation had been substantially reduced to Rs.597.77 crore (comprising Rs. 537.14 crore as Normal and Rs. 60.63 crore as NER component) at RE stage. This substantial reduction of Rs. 242.23crore at RE stage for the year 2017-18 has been done by the Ministry of Finance as expenditure in case of some of the main Schemes of the Ministry could not be done in accordance with the BE.

The Committee take a serious note of the shortfall in meeting the physical targets in case of the main schemes of the Ministry resulting not only in low expenditure but denying their benefits to the masses. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry need to seriously look into the reasons of such delays and take appropriate measures to avoid such shortfalls in future. The Committee would like to be apprised of steps taken in this regard.

4. The Committee further note that against RE of Rs.597.77 crore for the year 2017-18, the utilization of funds up to January, 2018 is Rs. 387.50 crore (64.82%). As stated, the Ministry has tried to optimize the allocation at RE amongst the schemes of Ministry

sector-wise by allocating funds to the Media Units in a rational manner and level of expenditure would be raised significantly upto 31.3.2018 and allocated funds would be utilized. Also, regular review meetings are taken by Secretary (I&B), AS&FA and concerned Joint Secretaries to assess the shortfall in expenditure and to suggest the suitable measures for enhancing the expenditure. The Committee trust that the Ministry would take appropriate measures to optimally utilize the allocated funds. They would like to be apprised of the actual expenditure incurred as on 31.03.2018.

Prasar Bharati

All India Radio

5. The Committee observe that All India Radio(AIR) was allocated funds of Rs. 154 crore for its various schemes during 2017-18, However the outlay had been reduced to Rs.115 crore at RE stage. Out of this, AIR has been able to incur expenditure of only Rs. 65.41 crore up to December, 2017(56.88% of utilization over RE). The reduction in the outlay at RE stage is stated to have been done keeping in view the trend of expenditure, actual requirement, availability of funds and inter-se priority, etc.

None of the reasons for reduction of outlays at RE is convincing. The Committee express their serious concern over reduction in the outlay at RE stage which not only indicate poor

planning at the level of Ministry but also adversely affects the targets, physical as well financial, of the next year. The Committee therefore strongly recommend that the Ministry should put realistic targets and take all possible steps to achieve the same within the fixed timelines.

6. The Committee are happy to note the advance planning done by AIR for the execution of their projects during 2018-19. As stated, the purchase orders have already been placed for 13 new 10kW FM transmitters and associated equipment and order for 100 nos. 100Watt FM transmitters, studio items would be placed by March 2018 so that these projects are completed during 2018-19. Further, construction of new buildings at new sites are also under progress and are likely to be completed during 2018-19. The Committee trust that such advance measures and planning is all the more necessary for Prasar Bharati to survive in view of strong competition in the market and hope that the AIR would take all measures to optimally utilize the funds of Rs. 125 crore allocated for the year 2018-19.

Doordarshan

7. The Committee regret to note the underutilization of funds for various schemes of Doordarshan during 2016-17, as against the allocation of Rs. 221 crore, only Rs. 208.14 crore could be utilised. They also note that during 2017-18, allocations of Rs. 276 crore has been reduced to Rs. 167 crore at RE stage.

The Committee disapprove the delays in the execution of certain projects targeted during 2016-17 which have been attributed to the poor participation in tenders and some administrative reasons. Again, drastic reduction of Rs. 109 crore at RE,2017-18 is on account of under-utilisation of funds in projects viz., digitalization of terrestrial transmitters, providing Earth Station at 11 locations, modernization of Earth Stations at various locations, providing of Earth Station at CPC, Delhi, HDTV Studio at Chennai & Kolkata, DTH Expansion, providing of New DSNG terminals and misc. items viz. completion of Amritsar tower etc. This poorly reflects on the lack of planning and performance of Doordarshan as a public broadcaster. Resultantly, the nation has been kept deprived of the telecasting services and Doordarshan is unable to compete with other private players in the field.

The Committee are further perturbed to note that even the reduced outlay of Rs. 167 crore would not be fully utilized during the year and the likely expenditure (as on 31.03.2018) would be to the tune of Rs. 71.35 crore only. The reason cited as introduction of GST, non-participation of vendors in the higher value tenders resulting in revision of the tender document, etc. are hardly convincing and rather reflects on the inefficiency with regard to preparedness of the Prasar Bharati to deal with the upcoming challenges attached to the new reforms in taxation. The Committee deplore such casual attitude

of Prasar Bharati in this regard and desire that the observation of the Committee should be taken seriously by the Prasar Bharati/Doordarshan in implementation of the Doordarshan projects which are of crucial importance.

Modernisation, Augmentation and Replacement of satellite broadcast Equipment

8. The Committee are constrained to express their unhappiness over the consistent under-utilisation of funds for the scheme, "Modernisation, Augmentation and Replacement of satellite broadcast Equipment". During 2016-17, out of the allocated funds of Rs. 10 crore, only Rs. 8.07 crore were utilised. The reason for the shortfall being poor participation by bidders resulting in delays in Standard Industrial Trade Classification(SITC) of compression system for Earth Station at Gorakhpur. The Committee are further perturbed to note under-utilisation of funds during 2017-18 to the extent of Rs. 11.31 crore, where against the allocation of Rs. 21.31 crore for the scheme, the likely utilization of funds upto 31.03.2018 is stated to be only Rs. 10.00 crore. The low utilization of funds is due to less supply of Digital Satellite News Gatherings(DSNGs) as there was delay in processing of sanctions due to GST related issues & delay in obtaining Wireless Planning and Coordination(WPC) clearance. The Committee are not convinced of the reasons

adduced by the Ministry for the shortfall during 2016-17 and 2017-18 as there has been gross underutilization of funds allocated for a purpose. The Committee feel that modernization and augmentation of broadcasting equipments/machinery is necessary pre-requisite for any broadcaster to survive in the competitive industry. The Committee therefore desire the Ministry/Prasar Bharati to take all corrective measures for optimum utilization of the allocation of Rs. 14.22 crore made for 2018-19 so that people could be benefitted with better quality transmission of the modernised satellite broadcast equipment.

Budgetary Allocations for North-Eastern Region

9. As far as the North East Region(NER) is concerned, the Committee note that during the 12th Plan, against BE and RE of Rs. 465.55 crore and Rs. 379.64 crore respectively, Rs. 330.11 crore has been utilized with a shortfall of Rs. 49.53 crore. During 2017-18, the allocation of Rs. 84.20 crore was reduced to Rs. 60.63 crore at RE stage. The Committee do not find it as a healthy trend in the Ministry that for almost all the schemes outlays have been reduced at the RE stage. The shortfall in utilization of budgetary allocations for North Eastern Region is stated to be mainly under the scheme 'Infrastructure Development in SRFTI' for the reason that the terrain in Itanagar where the land for the institute is situated, is difficult to

reach and therefore a bridge on the nearby river needs to be constructed for taking the activities forward. The Committee do not find the above reason convincing advanced by the Ministry as by sheer exercise of normal prudence, the Department should have anticipated the preparatory requirements before making budgetary projections on this head. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should now prepare a concrete plan having in-built mechanism to address the challenges likely to be faced in the process and make concerted efforts to complete the project in a fix time-frame.

10. The Committee are concerned to note that inordinate delays has occurred in the launch of Aruna Prabha Channel in the North-Eastern Region. As informed, the technical facility for launch of the Aruna Prabha Channel has been set up and planning done for content development as per the need and liking of the young generation and also keeping in mind the public service agenda of the Doordarshan. To address the funding problem, a consolidated EFC proposal amounting to Rs. 3290.23 crore including Rs. 476.75 crore for content funding of Kisan Channel and Arun Prabha Channel has been circulated to concerned Ministries/Departments on 31-01-2018. The Committee observe that keeping in mind the importance of the Arun Prabha Channel for the interest of the people of the North Eastern States, it is imperative that the implementing agency

timely gets the adequate funds. The Committee, therefore, desire that the proposal in this regard should get favourable and an urgent attention of the Ministry of Finance. The Committee would like that the matter may be taken up with the Ministry of Finance at an appropriate level with the justification for a need to have a Channel in North-Eastern region to meet aspirations of local people. The Committee would like to be informed of the progress in the matter.

Revenue Earnings

11. The Committee observe that Prasar Bharati has not been able to meet the target set by them in respect of their revenue earnings throughout the 12th Plan Period. It is noted that against the target of Rs. 1815.00 crore, Rs. 1996.00 crore, Rs. 2195.00 crore, Rs. 2200.00 crore and Rs. 1504.82.00 crore for the year 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively, the revenue earnings had been to the level of Rs. 1552.90 crore, Rs. 1622.84 crore, Rs. 1537.36 crore, Rs. 1393.41 crore and Rs. 1425.00 crore respectively. Further, the revenue target of Rs. 1488 crore for the year 2017-18 had to be revised to Rs.1388.00 crore due to shortfall of revenues on account of auctioning of DD Free Dish slots and sale of time slots on DD National channel being put on hold. The Committee are distressed to find that the share of revenue through advertisement is showing a continuous decline at 91%, 83%, 83%,

74%, 71% and 70%(likely) during the period from 2012-13 to 2017-18. The Committee do not find it as a satisfactory position for Prasar Bharati. The Committee though appreciate the constraint of Prasar Bharati to maintain a balance between its role as a public broadcaster and a revenue earner, yet the fact remains that the organization has to maintain its commercial viability and therefore the Committee would like Prasar Bharati to strive hard to reverse the declining trend in its commercial revenue without compromising with the quality of programmes.

12. The Committee are informed that at present, repeat content and movies are being shown on DD National Channel and other regional channels. In view of stressed financial position of Prasar Bharati, DD is not able to infuse new content on its channels which has resulted in attrition of commercial advertisers and a decline in commercial revenue. The Committee are of the considered view that the problem of inadequacy of funds could be addressed by Prasar Bharati by exploring all possible avenues to enhance its earnings. As informed, several measures have been initiated by the Ministry/Prasar Bharati in this regard to enhance its revenue receipts. These measures include strengthening of sales and marketing teams of AIR and Doordarshan, induction of sales/marketing professionals, offering of turn-key solutions to various Ministries and Government Departments for dissemination of

information about their various social development schemes, sharing of infrastructure such as towers, studios, auditoria etc., exploring the possibility of collaborating with companies having CSR Funds in order to contribute to the overall revenue generation of Prasar Bharati, devising a new scheme for content acquisition based on the best practices followed by Public Broadcasters around the globe, restructuring of Doordarshan to separate its Creative, Sourcing, and Marketing/Sales functions from its Operational/Administrative functions, setting up of a task force for developing a new business model for DD Free Dish based on a revenue sharing basis with interested partners, etc. The Committee while appreciating the various steps being taken by the Department as above, are of the considered view that there is also a need to develop Doordarshan programmes having rich contents in regional languages for better and effective communication to people located in remote areas of the country. The Committee hope that all these measures would facilitate enhanced revenue earnings for Prasar Bharati in the coming years.

Film Sector

Anti-Piracy initiatives

13. The Committee are very concerned to note that as per FICCI-KPMG Report of 2017, there is an annual loss of about Rs. 180 billion

accompanied by loss of about 6000 jobs due to film piracy. They are further disturbed to learn that though the Ministry of I&B had introduced a Plan Scheme for Anti-Piracy initiatives during the 12th Plan Period but unfortunately, nothing concrete has been done in this regard. The approved Scheme which proposes to have an effective legal mechanism in place to combat the piracy issue and also to create awareness among consumers about the serious effects of piracy on the economy has also remained on papers only. The lack of seriousness on the part of the Ministry is reflected from the fact that the funds of Rs. 2 crore allocated during the 12th Plan Period and Rs. 1 lakh allocated for the year 2017-18 for Anti-Piracy Initiatives have remained mainly un-utilised.

The Committee are given to understand that various constraints/difficulties are being faced by the Ministry in their efforts to fulfill the mandate of the scheme viz. requirement to coordinate with various Ministries/Department to combat the problem of anti-piracy, amending Section 69 A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 to provide for executive action for site blocking in relation to copyright infringement, etc. The Committee are of the considered opinion that Piracy not only causes huge monetary loss to the film Industry but also hampers overall growth of the film industry. The Committee would therefore like the Ministry to take up the matter with the concerned authorities at the

right earnest to take suitable measures in order to effectively address the problem of piracy of films at the earliest. The Committee strongly feel that collective, structured, scientific and multi-pronged strategy only can deal effectively the piracy issue and, therefore, it is imperative that immediate steps are taken to implement the approved scheme of the Ministry and also to bring appropriate legislation, if required. The Committee would like to be informed of the precise action taken in this direction.

Setting up of National Centre for Excellence for Animation, Gaming, Visual Effects and Comics (NCoE-AVGC)

14. The Committee learn that National Centre of Excellence (NCoE) for Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming & Comics is a 12th Plan scheme to build a Centre for excellence at the national level to impart world class talent pool in India to cater to the requirements of the Indian industry and global players. The Committee are, however, disappointed to find gross under-utilisation of funds for the scheme during 2016-17 and 2017-18. During 2016-17, against BE and RE of Rs. 5.10 crore and Rs. 1.00 crore respectively, only Rs. 39 lakh could be utilized. Further, during 2017-18, against BE and RE of Rs. 60 crore and Rs. 1.54 crore respectively, only Rs. 70 lakh is likely to be utilized upto 31.03.2018. It is observed that BE of only

Rs. 2.12 crore has been allocated for the year 2018-19 under this Scheme. The Committee are informed that budget allocations from the year 2017-18 to 2018-19 was reduced as the land at Mumbai for construction of campus of NCoE-AVGC has not been handed over to the Ministry. Further, the short courses proposed to be commenced from the academic year 2017-18 could not be started since the operating partner is yet to be finalized, and no bid has been received in spite of issuing of the global tender for the identification of academic partner. The Committee are made to understand that in the absence of academic partner, the purpose of setting up of NCoE-AVGC would not be achieved and hence, it was proposed to revisit the plan scheme ab-initio.

The Committee's analysis reveals that delay in setting up of campus of NCoE-AVGC at Mumbai and resultant gross under-utilisation of funds is another example of lackadaisical approach of the Ministry towards implementation of their important projects. It is highly disquieting that after the lapse of two years since the administrative approval for scheme 'NCoE-AVGC' was issued with a total outlay of Rs. 167.70 crore to be implemented in a four year period from 2016-17 to 2019-20, as per the appraisal and recommendation of Standing Finance Committee, the Ministry now plans to revisit the scheme ab-initio. The Committee therefore strongly recommend that all issues concerning with this project like

acquisition and possession of land, construction of campus, identification of academic partners, finalization of academic programmes etc. must be finalized by the Ministry in a time-bound manner and a monitoring committee may be constituted to expedite the processes involved. The Committee may be kept apprised of the action taken in this regard.

National Film Heritage Mission (NFHM)

15. The Committee note that NFHM is a scheme to restore, digitize and archive films and film related material which is being implemented through the National Film Archives of India (NFAI). During 2016-17, out of Rs. 30 crore allocated for the scheme, only Rs. 10.83 crore was spent. The cited reasons that the executing agency could only be engaged for the work of 'Film condition assessment of the film reels' while the tender process for other activities viz, preventive conservation of film reels and digitization of film reels is under process are not convincing to the Committee. This indicates that NFAI has not acted in a prudent manner to timely assess the situation. Further, during 2017-18, BE of Rs. 50 crore was substantially reduced to Rs. 6.02 crore at RE stage. The Committee are distressed to learn that the entire scheme for which allocation of Rs. 50.00 crore was made for the financial year 2017-18 is under

review and all tendering processes under NFHM have been put on hold until the review is completed.

The Committee deplore such lackluster attitude of NFAI in implementations of the schemes under it. The Committee desire that serious efforts should be made for implementation of the schemes and there should be proper utilisation of allocated funds. The Committee further urge the Ministry to gear up the functioning of NFAI so that the funds of Rs.57.78 crore allocated for the NFHM scheme, which is also one of the thrust areas of the Ministry during 2018-19 are fully utilized.

**Production of films and documentaries in various Indian Languages-
production of Children's films (CFSI)**

16. The Committee observe that Children Film Society of India also could not fully utilize the funds allocated to them for the year 2017-18. Out of Rs. 7.90 crore allocated for the scheme, only funds to the extent of Rs. 4.65 crore are likely to be utilized upto 31.03.2018. Funds to the tune of Rs. 1.10 crore were re-appropriated towards the Film Festival. As against the target of 3 feature films and 2 short films during the year, only 2 feature films and 1 short film could be completed besides curtailment of some of the other physical targets. The Committee desire the Ministry to focus on the priorities set at the time of allocation of funds and make concerted efforts to

complete the mandated activities during the year. The Committee hope that the Ministry will take note of this as a guiding principle for execution of all their programmes/projects/schemes for which budgetary allocations are made.

17. The Committee draw some satisfaction to note that during 2018-19, a handsome amount of Rs. 27.50 crore, including Rs.1.0 crore for North East has been allocated for "Production of Films and Documentaries in various regional languages". The funds will be utilized for production of children films by CFSI, documentaries by Films Division and films by National Film Development Corporation (NFDC). The Committee hope that as assured, the selection process for effective implementation of the scheme of production of documentary films will be expedited and funds will be utilized prudently and within the fixed time frame for the cause of Children welfare.

Information Sector

Indian Institute of Mass Communication(IMCC)

18. The Committee are aware that Indian Institute of Mass Communication(IMCC) is a centre of excellence in the field of communication, teaching, training and research and it aims to be a world class institute. However, the Committee are not satisfied with the pattern of utilization of funds allocated for the scheme

'Upgradation of IIMC to International Standards' which was included in the 11th five year plan. During 2016-17, against the allocation of Rs. 1.85 crore, IIMC could utilize Rs. 56 lakhs only. Similarly, during 2017-18, against BE and RE of Rs. 4 crore and 2 crore respectively only Rs. 8 lakh has been spent up to 31 January, 2018. Therefore, unspent balance as on 31 January, 2018 is Rs. 3.21 crore. The delay in construction of new buildings at New Delhi campus of IIMC due to pendency of clearance from various civic authorities does not appear to be appraisable explanation for under utilization of the allocated funds. The Committee while deprecating long delay in execution of this proposal, strongly recommends that all pending matters should be sorted out with the authorities concerned without any further loss of time so that building plans for new buildings on the vacant land at the IIMC Campus, New Delhi is finalized and allocated funds are optimally utilized.

19. The Committee note that the Central Sector Scheme "Opening of New Regional Campuses of IIMC" was included in the 12th Five Year Plan and approved for an amount of Rs.94.00 crore. The proposals under this scheme included construction of permanent campuses for the four new Regional Campuses of IIMC at Aizawl, Kottayam, Jammu and Amravati on lands to be provided by the respective State Government free of cost. The Committee note that fund allocated for the scheme during 2016-17 was fully utilized and

during 2017-18 also, funds allocated are likely to be fully utilized. The Committee while appreciating the optimum utilization of funds under this scheme, express their hope that the construction of permanent campuses at Aizawl and Kottayam would be completed during 2018-19 and construction of permanent campuses at Jammu and Amravati will commence at the earliest.

Development Communication & Information Dissemination(DCID)

20. The Committee are informed that from the year 2018-19, all the sub-schemes under Development Communication & Information Dissemination(DCID), viz. Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity(DAVP), Directorate of Field Publicity(PIB), Song and Drama Division(S&DD) and Social Media Platform(MS) have been merged and a single line Budget Entry has been made for scheme DCID. The Committee note that during 2016-17, for all the sub-schemes under DCID, against the allocation at BE and RE of Rs. 144.60 crore and Rs. 220.10 crore, respectively, the utilisation was Rs. 210.30 crore. Further, during 2017-18, against the allocation at BE and RE of Rs. 140.20 crore and Rs. 155.62 crore, respectively, the utilisation of funds up to 31.01.2018 is Rs. 93.21 crore. BE of Rs. 182 crore has been fixed for 2018-19. The Committee learn that due to the reduced allocation for the scheme during 2017-18 from the proposed amount of Rs. 84.23 crore to Rs. 8 crore, 3250 Special Outreach

Programmes(SOPs) and 30000 programmes under Direct Integrated Communication Campaign (DICC) proposed to be conducted during 2018-19 would have to be reduced accordingly.

The Committee observe that DICC component aims at raising levels, awareness, empowering and creating an enabling environment through intensified communication campaigns, for the farmers, women, youth, and the disadvantaged section of the society in the 150 districts identified as most backward in the country and 50 districts which are affected by LWE. The Committee therefore strongly recommend that the allocations under DCID and DICC component should be enhanced suitably at the RE stage.

21. The Committee observe that out of the allocation of Rs.80 lakh for the sub-scheme, 'Media Outreach Programme and Publicity for Special Events(PIB) for NER during the year 2017-18, only Rs. 24 lakh is likely to be spent up to 31 March, 2018. As the scheme has the mandate to disseminate information to the masses on government plans, policies, programme initiatives and achievements and reach out to the regional media which is in more direct contact with the target population, it is important that the funds allocated for NER are optimally utilised. The Committee therefore desire that corrective measures should be taken by the Ministry without any further delay.

Broadcasting Sector (other than Prasar Bharati)

Supporting Community Radio Movement in India

22. The Committee observe that there is a less utilisation of funds also in the scheme 'Supporting Community Radio Movement in India'. During 2016-17, against the allocation of Rs. 4 crore, the utilisation remained to the extent of Rs.1.28 crore. The expenditure likely to be incurred under this Scheme during the current year is Rs. 0.89 crore. The Committee are not convinced by the reasons advanced for the shortfall in expenditure like non-holding of National Sammelan and 02 Regional Sammelans for Community Radio due to administrative reasons. It has also been mentioned that Community Radio Awards which used to be distributed during the National Sammelan were not distributed and the funds earmarked for capacity building of community radio stations also could not be utilized, etc. The Committee thus find that the Scheme has not been given the importance it deserves and therefore, recommend that the Ministry should focus to undertake all the activities of this Scheme to realize the targets set for the financial year 2018-19.

The Committee further observe that the mandate of the scheme is to strengthen new and existing CR Stations with resources, capacity and technology so that they could provide access and voice

to marginalized communities, to promote growth of CRS, especially in remote and rural areas, so that people living in these areas could have access to a meaningful medium of broadcast and to promote socio-economic and cultural development of communities as CRS is a powerful medium for social mobilization. They therefore desire that serious attempt should be made to utilize the funds allocated for the scheme. They further suggest that the Ministry should also conduct a study with regard to the impact assessment of the scheme to improve its content, monitoring and technological aspects, etc. for better performance of the Community Radios.

Mission Digitisation of Cable TV Network

23. The Committee learn that a proposal to continue the 12th Plan Scheme "Mission Digitisation" up to 31.03.2020 with an outlay of Rs.12.70 crore to ensure full implementation of Cable TV Digitization is under submission. As stated, the preliminary action has been initiated with regard to the Maintenance of the exclusive website of 'digitalindiamib', Maintenance of software of Management Information System (MIS) for seeding data of STBs, developing of the Centralized Monitoring System for collection of data from individual cable TV subscribers in order to ensure better dispute resolution, grievance redressal of consumers and to bring transparency, developing of App

based training modules for Cable TV Operators, deployment/engaging of Team/Agency for collection of data on Cable TV digitization which will report on (i) carriage of analog signals, (ii) carriage of unencrypted signals, (iii) carriage of unauthorized channel and (iv) non-carriage of mandatory channels by cable operators and continuation of Head/Regional Units along with Staffs. The Committee observe that during 2016-17, the Ministry could utilise Rs. 2.26 crore, out of Rs. 3 crore allocated for the scheme due to various court cases filed in High Courts challenging the cut-off date of Phase III of Cable TV Digitization.

The Committee would like to be apprised of the progress with regard to the proposal to continue with the 12th Plan Scheme "Mission Digitisation" up to 31.03.2020, which is stated to be under submission. They further desire that sincere efforts be made to utilize the amount of Rs. 2 crore allocated during 2018-19 for the scheme in to make cable TV digitization in the country a complete success.

**New Delhi;
12th March, 2018
21st Phalguna, 1939 (Saka)**

**ANURAG SINGH THAKUR,
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on
Information Technology.**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(2017-18)**

MINUTES OF THE NINTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee sat on Wednesday, the 21 February, 2018 from 1430 hours to 1630 hours in Committee Room 'B', Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Anurag Singh Thakur-Chairperson

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Prasun Banerjee
3. Dr. Sunil Baliram Gaikwad
4. Dr. Anupam Hazra
5. Shri P. Karunakaran
6. Shri Virender Kashyap
7. Shri Harinder Singh Khalsa
8. Smt. R. Vanaroja
9. Shri Abhishek Singh
10. Shri Ramdas C. Tadas

Rajya Sabha

11. Shri Raj Babbar
12. Shri Santiuse Kujur
13. Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri R.C. Tiwari | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Y.M. Kandpal | - | Director |
| 3. | Dr. Sagarika Dash | - | Additional Director |
| 4. | Smt. Geeta Parmar | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 5. | Shangreiso Zimik | - | Under Secretary |

Representatives of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|---|
| 1. | Shri N.K.Sinha | Secretary, Ministry of I & B |
| 2. | Shri Ali R. Rizvi | Addl. Secretary & Financial Advisor |
| 3. | Shri Rohit Kumar Parmar | Senior Economic Adviser |
| 4. | Shri Shashi Shekar | Chief Executive Officer,
Prasar Bharati |
| 5. | Ms. Supriya Sahu | Director General, Doordarshan |
| 6. | Shri F. Sheheryar | Director General, All India Radio |
| 7. | Shri Ghanshyam Goel | Director General, Directorate of
Advertising & Visual Publicity |
| 8. | Shri A.P. Frank Noronha | Principal Director General, Press
Information Bureau |
| 9. | Shri K. Ganesan | Press Registrar,
Registrar of Newspapers for India |
| 10. | Mr. Anurag Srivastava | Chief Executive Officer, Central
Board of Film Certification, Mumbai |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) and other officials accompanying him to the sitting of the Committee convened for examination of the Demands for Grants (2018-19) relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The Secretary, MIB thereafter, made a power point presentation highlighting on Demands for Grants (2018-19), the major thrust areas during the year, expenditure trend in 2017-18 and allocation made on the various schemes in the Information, Film and Broadcasting sectors, etc. Thereafter, Secretary, MIB elaborated on the issues related to cable TV digitisation, viewership of Doordarshan, and other major schemes of the Ministry and initiatives being taken by the Department.

3. The Members, then, sought clarification on issues viz. convergence of DAVP, S&DD, DFP, content creation, DD free dish, revenue of Prasar Bharati, sources for revenue growth, launch of Arun Prabha channel, publication Division, Community Radio Stations, revival of Film Division, Publication Division, etc. The representatives of the Ministry replied to some of the queries raised by the Members. The representatives also assured the Committee that the written replies to the queries raised which remained unanswered would be furnished at the earliest.

5. The Chairperson, then, thanked the representatives of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for deposing before the Committee.

The witnesses then withdrew.

Verbatim Proceedings of the sitting have been kept on record.

The Committee, then, adjourned.

**MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (2017-18) HELD ON 12TH MARCH, 2018**

The Committee sat on Monday, the 12th March, 2018 from 1000 hours to 1030 hours in Committee Room No. '3', First Floor, Extension Parliament House Annexe Building, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Anurag Singh Thakur - Chairperson

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Lal Krishna Advani
3. Shri Prasun Banerjee
4. Dr. Sunil Baliram Gaikwad
5. Dr. Anupam Hazra
6. Dr. J. Jayavardhan
7. Shri Virender Kashyap
8. Dr. K. C. Patel

Rajya Sabha

9. Shri Suresh Gopi
10. Shri Santiuse Kujur
11. Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Shri R.C. Tiwari | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Shri Y.M. Kandpal | - | Director |
| 3. Dr. Sagarika Dash | - | Additional Director |
| 4. Smt. Geeta Parmar | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 5. Shri Shangreiso Zimik | - | Under Secretary |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee convened to consider and adopt the following Draft Reports on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)':-

- (i) Forty-fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2018-19) relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting;
- (ii)XXXX....XXXX...XXXX...XXXX...XXXX....XXXX...XXXX...XXXX...;
- (iii)XXXX....XXXX...XXXX...XXXX...XXXX....XXXX...XXXX...XXXX...;
- (iv)XXXX....XXXX...XXXX...XXXX...XXXX....XXXX...XXXX...XXXX...; and
- (v)XXXX....XXXX...XXXX...XXXX...XXXX....XXXX...XXXX...XXXX...;

3. The Committee, thereafter, adopted the Forty-fifth Report without any modification.

4. The Committee, then, authorized the Chairperson to finalize the draft Reports arising out of factual verification, if any, and present the Reports to the House during the current session of Parliament.

The Committee, then, adjourned

....XXXX....Matters not related to Report