Indian Broadcasting (Programme) Service

678. SHRI B. RAJARAVI VARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision for setting up of an Indian Broadcasting (Programme) Service for bringing greater professionalism in the media; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the likely time by which it would be set up?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). While the Government are in favour of constituting the proposed Indian Broadcasting (Programme) Service, the question has now to be examined in the context of the decision to convert All India Radio and Doordarshan into an autonomous Corporation.

[Translation]

Alleged Irregularities in Recruitment by Banking Service Recruitment Board, Central Division, Lucknow

679. SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many irregularities have been made in recruitment by the Banking Services Recruitment Board (Central Division), Lucknow; and

(b) if so, the action taken so far by Government in this regard and also the action taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) No, Sir.

· (b) Does not arise.

[English]

Allotment of Advertisements to Newspapers

680. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for allotment of Government advertisements to various categories of newspapers;

(b) whether the small newspapers are mostly ignored in the matter of allotment of Government advertisement; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to rectify the position?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) The advertisements are released to various categories of newspapers keeping in view the Government's advertising policy, publicity requirements and availability of funds. A statement of the advertising policy is given below.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

(Advertising Policy of the Government of India)

'A' Preamble:

1. The Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity places advertisements in various newspapers/journals on behalf of various Ministries and Departments of the Government of India. A number of autonomous