

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3394

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.07.2019)

ARUN PRABHA CHANNEL

3394. SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE:

**Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Arun Prabha channel of Doordarshan was charged for malpractices during their allotment of production contracts and selection of programme producers, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether CBI has conducted any enquiry into the aforementioned allegations, if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the grounds on which several allotments were made by overlooking merit and experience in the field of production; and**
- (d) the findings of the CBI in the matter?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE
CHANGE; AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)**

(a) to (d): Prasar Bharati has informed that all programmes for DD Arunprabha Channel were selected strictly in accordance with the “*Guidelines for Commissioned Programmes for Telecast on North East DD Channels-2016*” on merit by Evaluation Committees constituted by Prasar Bharati consisting of eminent experts and no malpractices have been reported in commissioning of programmes. The process of selection was challenged in Hon’ble High Courts of Guwahati, J&K and Delhi and all the petitions have been dismissed.

A complaint alleging irregularities and malpractices in selection of production houses for allotment of programmes for DD Arunprabha channel was received from CBI for necessary action. The matter was not inquired into by CBI. The allegations in the complaint were inquired into and it was observed that laid down norms and criteria had been followed.
