New Delhi the 23rd September, 2019

Sub.: Summary (No.-8) to the Cabinet on the significant activities of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for the month of August 2019.

The significant activities / events relating to this Ministry for the month of August 2019 are outlined below:-

1.0 On the occasion of the **Anniversary of Quit India Movement**, Hon'ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting Shri Prakash Javadekar presented the book “Mahatma Gandhi: Chitramaya Jeevan Gatha” published by Publications Division (DPD) to the Hon'ble President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind in Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi on 9th August, 2019. The Minister also apprised the President about the efforts of the Ministry towards celebrating #Gandhi150.

1.1 ‘**Listening, Learning and Leading**’ book chronicling Hon’ble Vice President's two years in office, published by Bureau of Outreach and Communication (BOC), was released by Hon’ble Union Minister for Home Affairs Shri Amit Shah, at a function hosted by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in Chennai on 11th August, 2019. Hon’ble Vice President Shri Venkaiah Naidu received the first copy. Hon’ble Minister of Information & Broadcasting Shri Prakash Javadekar presided over the function. Tamil Nadu Governor Shri Banwarilal Purohit, Chief Minister Edappadi Palaniswamy, Deputy Chief Minister O. Paneerselvam and host of dignitaries from various walks of life participated in the function. Regional Outreach Bureau (ROB), Chennai under BOC also organized a photo exhibition highlighting the journey of the Vice President from a student leader.

1.2 Media Units of the Ministry provided extensive coverage and exclusive updates on the **abrogation of Article 370** in Jammu & Kashmir, including the passage of bills in Parliament and the speeches of Hon’ble President of India, Hon’ble Prime Minister and Hon’ble Home Minister. DD News telecast discussion based programmes on Article 370 and Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) such as 'Kashmir Truth', 'Kashmir ka Sachh', 'Jammu Kashmir- Badlav ki Bayaar' and J&K ground report. News Services Division, All India Radio (NSD AIR) broadcast 43 Ground Reports from Srinagar, Jammu, Leh & Kargil. A comprehensive feedback system was put in place to collect information from the regional press and information was disseminated widely through Press Releases by PIB.

1.3 The **66th National Film Awards were announced** on 9th August, 2019 by the respective Chairpersons and Jury members of various categories. The Awards announced included Gujarati film 'Hellaro' as 'Best Feature Film', 'Badhaai Ho' as 'Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment', Hindi movie 'Padman' as 'Best Film on Social Issues', Aditya Dhar as 'Best Director' for 'Uri: The Surgical Strike', Ayushman Khurana and Vicky Kaushal jointly as 'Best Actor' for their performances in Andhadhun and Uri: The Surgical Strike respectively, Keerthy Suresh as 'Best Actress' for her performance in Telugu movie 'Mahanati', Marathi
movie 'Paani' as 'Best Film on Environment Conservation/ Preservation', Kannada film 'Ondalla Eradalla' as 'Nargis Dutt Award for Best Feature Film on National Integration' and Uttarakhand state as "Most Film Friendly State".

1.4 The Hon'ble President of India's message to the Nation on the eve of Independence Day and the Message & Flag Hoisting by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on the 73rd Independence Day of India 2019 was broadcast/telecast/streamed live on all major platforms of the Ministry, including Social Media. Hon'ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting Shri Prakash Javadekar released a patriotic song “Watan” produced by Doordarshan on 13th August, 2019 in New Delhi. The song pays tribute to New India and is sung by famous Bollywood singer Shri Javed Ali, penned by lyricist Shri Alok Shrivastav and musically composed by Shri Dushyant. DD News telecast special programmes 'Independence Day 2019- Naye Bharat ki Or' and 'Quit India –Yaden Azadi Ki'. Special graphics were made and uploaded on Social Media platforms by Press Information Bureau (PIB). Films Division, Mumbai, in association with Gandhi Film Foundation, Mani Bhavan, organized Film Festival "Kahani Azadi Ki" on 14th & 15th August and screened 17 films on freedom struggle and freedom fighters. September 2019 issues of Yojana and Kurukshetra journals published by DPD carried selected points of PM's Independence Day address prominently.

1.5 The launch of the Fit India Programme by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was telecast live by DD and DD News from Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi on 29th August, 2019. Live streaming of the event was done on PIB's Social Media platforms apart from promo video for the pre-publicity and live tweets of pictures and video bytes. NSD AIR broadcast exclusive interviews with Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) for Youth Affairs and Sports Shri Kiren Rijiju and other renowned sportspersons. Private TV Channels were requested for appropriate coverage and publicity of the Fit India Campaign.

1.6 In a major step towards implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has decided to implement Accessibility Standards for Persons with Disabilities in television programmes for private TV channels from Independence Day 2019. Hon'ble President's address and the entire function from Red Fort was telecast live with sign language interpretation on DD Bharati channel. Private Satellite News TV channels also were asked to telecast a short programme on Independence Day Celebrations, along with corresponding sign language interpretation, in the afternoon/evening of 15th August. Ministry of I&B also received a Special Jury Award at a function organized by NCPEDP at IIC, New Delhi for its path breaking work in making television accessible for people with hearing disabilities.

1.7 The 7th National Community Radio Sammelan was organized by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting from 27th to 29th August, 2019 at Dr. BR Ambedkar Bhawan, New Delhi. Representatives of all operational Community Radio Stations (CRS) across the country along with senior officials of the Ministry were present in the Sammelan. On 28th August, 2019, Hon'ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting Shri Prakash Javadekar presented the 'National Awards for Community Radio for 2018 and 2019' and released a compendium of key decisions of the Government in first 75 days of second term titled “Jan Connect: Clear Intentions, Decisive Actions” prepared and printed by BOC. On the last day, it was announced that the Department of Telecommunications has agreed to dedicate two additional
frequencies viz. 89.6 and 90.0 MHz for running CRS and that the advertisement rates for Community Radio will be revised by the Bureau of Outreach and Communication (BOC) shortly. It was also announced that the Ministry will establish a CRS in every district of the country, starting with Aspirational Districts.

1.8 The **new logo and certificate design of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC)** was unveiled by the Hon’ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting Shri Prakash Javadekar on 31st August, 2019. Several renowned members of the film fraternity and senior officers of the Ministry were present at this special interaction held in Mumbai. On the occasion, the Minister also invited suggestions for certification of online content. On the upcoming Golden Jubilee edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), the Minister informed that the theme of IFFI 2019 is ‘Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat’.

1.9 The **Second All India Annual Conference of Indian Information Service Officers was organized** at Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra in New Delhi on 5th August, 2019. Hon’ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting Shri Prakash Javadekar conveyed his message to the Delegates of the Conference wherein he highlighted the importance of feedback along with communicating the programmes and policies of government, stating that the IIS Officers are the eyes and ears of the government. A Performance Review of Media Units under the Ministry was also conducted during the Conference. A Regional Conference of North-East Zone and West Bengal Region was also organized in Guwahati, Assam on 23rd - 24th August, which was attended by senior officers of the Ministry and Northeast region states. In a Special Session on 24th August, Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, addressed all the participants and reviewed the performance.

1.10 In order to **commemorate the Golden Jubilee Edition of International Film Festival of India (IFFI)** to be held from the 20th - 28th November, 2019 in Goa, a competition for designing the Postage Stamp and First Day Cover was launched by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting on the MyGov platform. The winner would receive a Certificate of Appreciation along with travel and hospitality for 2 nights and 3 days to Goa to attend the Festival.

1.11 The keynote address on the topic **'New India: Government and Media'** at the News Conclave organised by Malayala Manorama company limited at Kochi, Kerala was delivered by the Hon’ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting Shri Prakash Javadekar on 30th August, 2019. The Minister said that Perform, Reform and Transform are the three pillars on which New India’s vision has been built upon and conveyed that the Government is committed to media freedom for ever.

2.0 All India Radio (AIR) expanded and strengthened its **‘Transmission and Outreach’ infrastructure** by inaugurating “MAHABAHU” 10 kW FM Channel at Guwahati (Assam) and commissioning 10 kW FM set-up each at Krishnanagar (West Bengal) and Suryapet (Telengana).

2.1 DD News has started telecasting **Ground Reports** on successful implementation of various Govt. flagship schemes, including those related to Transforming India, New India Stories and Ayushman Bharat. Report is prepared after taking feedback from actual beneficiary of concerned scheme. All the videos of the ground reports are regularly uploaded on the website of DD News. DD News also telecast special programmes ‘Khas Mulakaat’ with Hon’ble Ministers and Air Marshal, ‘Khass Mulakat
Sitron ke Saath', 'Teen Talak se Nijaat', 'Jal Shakti Samachar', Motor Vehicle Amendment Act, 2019, Economic Census, India Foreign Policy, etc.

2.2 DD News did **special shows and coverage** of the visits of VVIPs including Hon’ble President of India, Hon’ble Vice President of India and Hon’ble Prime Minister. DD News provided coverage to the Press Conference with Hon’ble Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman on Budget related issues. DD News and NSD AIR also did special coverage of the Chandrayaan 2 lunar orbital manoeuvres.

3.0 National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) Ltd., Mumbai initiated talks to acquire content from institutes such as Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI), Children’s Film Society, India (CFSI) and Films Division for its **Video on Demand platform** [www.cinemasofindia.com](http://www.cinemasofindia.com). **Skill Development Training for differently abled persons** in Digital Still Photography, Multimedia, Animation and Editing for 290 candidates has been commenced by NFDC on 27th August, 2019 at St. Louis College for deaf, Chennai.

3.1 For the first time in Eastern India, SRFTI organized a 3-day **workshop on ‘Theatre on Screen’** from 9th to 11th August, 2019, which highlighted history and evolution of the academics of theatre of Bengal and its portrayal on screen. SRFTI also organized **2nd MINI INPUT** (INPUT is world’s largest Public TV production organization) from 29th – 30th August, 2019 where participants interacted with the TV professionals from all over the world through Skype.

**I&B Initiatives on Minimum Government Maximum Governance –**

- **Community Radio Stations (CRS)** – 7th National Community Radio Sammelan 2019 was organized and 6th and 7th edition of National Community Radio Awards were conferred by the Hon’ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting. The 7th National compendium of operational CRS was released. A movie with step-by-step directions on how to set up a CRS and another movie showcasing success stories of CRS in various parts of the country, were also released.

- **FM Radio** – A draft agenda note to the Cabinet was prepared and circulated for Inter-ministerial consultation on 26-07-2018. After consultations with PMO, a letter dated 22-08-2019 was forwarded to TRAI to furnish recommendations, within six weeks, on fresh reserve prices for 283 cities (260 new + 23 existing), under FM Phase –III Policy in terms of Section 11(1)(a) of TRAI Act, factoring in various issues like inflation, indexation of reserve prices worked out in the years from 2011 to 2015, et al, including the reasons for the same as also reasons for variation from earlier recommended reserve prices.

- **Channel Licensing** – Ministry of I&B issued permission to 7 Private Satellite TV channels and cancelled permission of 1 (Non-news) permitted Private Satellite TV channel. Hence, the total number of Private Satellite TV channels for Uplinking and Downlinking in India as on 31.08.2019 is 911.

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