

Government of India
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
(Policy Planning Cell)

New Delhi the 18th January, 2024

Sub.: Summary (No.- 12) to the Cabinet on the significant activities of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for the month of December 2023.

The significant activities / events relating to this Ministry for the month of December 2023 are outlined below:-

1. On the occasion of the 162nd Birth Anniversary of Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, the **Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi released the first series of 11 volumes of 'Collected Works of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya'** at a program in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 25th December, 2023. Publications Division (DPD) under the Ministry of I&B has published these books and the work of researching and compiling the documents was undertaken by the Mahamana Malaviya Mission. The Hon'ble Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur; the Hon'ble Minister for Law and Justice, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal; Secretary of Mahamana Malaviya Mission, Shri Prabhunarayan Shrivastav; and Chief Editor of Pt. Madan Mohan Malviya Sampurna Vangamay and eminent journalist, Shri Ram Bahadur Rai among others were present on the occasion. The bilingual (English and Hindi) work in 11 volumes, is a collection of the writings and speeches of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, collected from every nook and corner of the country.
2. **Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY):** The largest-ever outreach initiative of the Government of India, Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, has reached **over 2.5 crore citizens** across **68,000 Gram Panchayats (GPs)** in the country in one month since it was flagged off on 15.11.2023. In the span of one month since launch, nearly **2 crore individuals have taken Viksit Bharat Sankalp** and over **2 Crore beneficiaries** of Central Government Schemes have shared their experiences under 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubani' initiative. **Hon'ble Prime Minister has held several interactions with the beneficiaries of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra.**
 - 2.1 The Hon'ble Minister of Information & Broadcasting, **Shri Anurag Singh Thakur participated in the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra** from Naleti Gram Panchayat, Hamirpur Lok Sabha constituency of Kangra district, Himachal Pradesh. The Minister hailed VBSY and called it pivotal in collective goal of a developed India.
 - 2.2 A **radio campaign** was undertaken by the Ministry of I&B with major FM Channels to generate awareness about the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra. An **original audio spot was composed** in-house, and translated by Press Information Bureau (PIB) into multiple languages, and is being disseminated by FM stations across India. RJ mentions are also being undertaken on these channels by popular radio jockeys to explain the significance and objectives of

the Yatra. PIB also conducted **2 Vartalaps** and **4 Media Tours** in context of VBSY and shared daily media feedback report on VBSY coverage, during the month.

- 2.3 PIB and Prasar Bharati extensively covered the **launch of 'Viksit Bharat@2047: Voice of Youth'** by Hon'ble PM via VC on 11.12.2023. DD News along with its 30 Regional News Units **extensively covered the Yatra** through special stories, bytes of participants, special packages, ground reports, discussion programs and a **special daily program series 'Sankalp Viksit Bharat Ka'** highlighting various aspects of VBSY. News Services Division, All India Radio (NSD:AIR) broadcast **discussions with experts** on the themes of Agriculture and Health on 06.12.2023 and 22.12.2023 under the Developed India Sankalp Yatra. New Media Wing (NMW) carried out social media dissemination through Video Bytes, Live Streaming, scheme-specific Reels and Graphics shared using hashtags **#HamaraSankalpViksitBharat, #विकसित_भारत_संकल्प_यात्रा, #ViksitBharatSankalpYatra** etc.
3. The Hon'ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Anurag Thakur on 30.12.2023 launched the **Government of India Calendar 2024** with the theme of "**Hamara Sankalp Viksit Bharat**". The calendar 2024 depicts the social, cultural and economic transformation brought about in the lives of the people of India through the design of people friendly policies and implementation of the schemes and initiatives that have played a crucial role in nurturing a strong India. The Calendar is printed in 13 languages including Hindi & English and being distributed across the country.
4. The Lok Sabha on 21.12.2023 passed the **Press and Registration of Periodicals (PRP) Bill, 2023**, which was passed by Rajya Sabha on 03.08.2023 during the Monsoon Session and was notified in the Gazette of India on 29.12.2023. The colonial era law of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867 has thus been repealed, making the process of allotment of title and registration of periodicals simple and simultaneous through an online system without the requirement of any physical interface. The publishers would no longer be required to file a declaration with the District Magistrates or the local authorities and get such declarations authenticated. Furthermore, printing presses would also not be required to furnish any such declaration; instead only an intimation would be sufficient. The PRP Act 2023 enables & empowers the Press Registrar General to fast track the process and to suspend/ cancel the Certificate of Registration. The statute has been substantially decriminalized as against the PRP Act 1867 and ushers in a new era of press freedom and ease of doing business. NMW carried out social media outreach for PRP Act 2023 across the social media accounts of M/o I&B with Graphics, Videos and Live Streaming shared using the hashtags **#PRPAct, #EaseofDoingBusiness** etc.
5. The Hon'ble Vice President of India, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar on 02.12.2023 delivered the **Dr. Rajendra Prasad Memorial Lecture** organized by Akashvani. The topic for this year's lecture was "Emergence of India as an Economic Superpower". The Hon'ble Vice President stated that India's economy and global respect and credibility of India have increased manifold in

recent years. He encouraged the citizens mentioning that India's re-emergence as a world leader possible only when all citizens discharge their duties.

6. **Cabinet approves MoU signed between India and Malaysia:** During the month, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi was apprised of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)/ Agreement signed on 07.11.2023 between Prasar Bharati with Radio Televisyen Malaysia, the Public Service Broadcaster of Malaysia in order to promote cooperation in public broadcasting in the field of radio and television. With this, the total number of MoUs signed by Prasar Bharati with different countries has increased to 46.
7. National Museum of Indian Cinema (NMIC) under National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) hosted a first of its kind **Exhibition from 1st to 15th December, 2023 on the works of eminent Spanish filmmaker Mr. Carlos Saura**. The inauguration was graced by several dignitaries and started with a Flamenco performance. This was followed by an insightful **Panel Discussion** on Carlos Saura between the Chief Guests including veteran filmmaker Shri Shyam Benegal. Apart from the exhibition, NMIC screened a few of the Carlos Saura's iconic films.
8. The Ministry has published the November 2023 edition of **PM's Mann ki Baat booklet** featuring '**Nari Shakti Vandan**' as the cover story. The e-version was distributed to over 6 crore citizens all over the country through e-sampark and also been uploaded on the websites of Ministry of I&B, MyGov, PM India and the media units of Ministry. The printed booklet is distributed to all MPs and MLAs of the country, all Secretaries and officials of Govt. of India, Chief Secretaries of States/ UTs and regional offices of M/o I&B.
9. **Year Ender: 47 Year Enders** of different Ministries was issued and disseminated through PIB network. DD News telecast **Viksit Bharat@2023 year ender series** highlighting India's achievements in different sectors during the year. NSD:AIR broadcast **Yearender series Exclusive Interview** with Secretary, Dept. for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT) on 23.12.2023. The December 2023 issue of Yojana journal published by Publications Division (DPD) is an '**Year-end**' **special** and delves into India's transformative journey in 2023, emphasizing resilience and global leadership.
10. The December 2023 fortnightly editions of **New India Samachar (NIS)** with the cover stories "**Accessible India, Empowered Society**" on the occasion of '**Tribal Pride Day**' and "**2023- Milestone Year of Nation Building**" were published in 13 languages and distributed across the country by CBC.
11. **Special Coverages/ Article:**
 - 11.1 The Hon'ble PM's **important newspaper article on Jammu & Kashmir Article 370** was shared with regions and widely published pan-India in all major national and state language newspapers. The Article garnered over **370 clippings**.

- 11.2 In the **run up to the consecration ceremony of Ram Temple at Ayodhya** on 22.01.2024, several packages on different aspects related to the Temple were telecast by DD News including on infrastructure development, construction of the temple, UPI usage in Ayodhya, enthusiasm across the country and the all-around preparations. Ground reports and telecast of shows like '5 Ki Panchayat from Ayodhya' were also mounted.
- 11.3 **Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2.0 (KTS 2.0)**: DD News live telecast the inauguration of KTS 2.0 by Hon'ble PM during which a new real time Artificial Intelligence based translation tool called 'Bhashini' was used for Tamil knowing audience. DD News reported on KTS 2.0 and Bhashini in 'Khabar Hat Kar', telecast dedicated news segments in regular & prime time news, a special program '**काशी तमिल संगमम**' featuring exclusive interactions with dignitaries and experts and a special program 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' on different classical dance forms in India. The reactions of participants of KTS 2.0 who traveled from Tamil Nadu to Varanasi were reported from on board the train during their train journey as well as the entire event, which was also telecast prominently on DD Podhigai and DD India.
- 11.4 **Coverage of Elections and Parliament**: A special programme '**Janadesh**' has covered the day long live coverage on the day of counting of States Assembly Elections with expert panel discussions. '**Sansad Samachar**' covered in details the proceedings of the Parliament during the winter session.
- 11.5 Prasar Bharati and Press Information Bureau (PIB) provided **live coverage and wide publicity to all major events** in which the Hon'ble President, Hon'ble Vice President and Hon'ble Prime Minister of India participated such as Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) Summit, Green Credits Programme at COP-28 in Dubai, first Indian Art, Architecture & Design Biennale (IAADB) 2023, Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2.0, Grand Finale of Smart India Hackathon 2023, Veer Bal Diwas program, development projects in Ayodhya, last Mann Ki Baat of 2023, etc.
12. **I&B Initiatives on Minimum Government Maximum Governance –**
- The Hon'ble Minister of Information & Broadcasting, Shri Anurag Thakur informed the Parliament on 14.12.2023 that **35 foreign film projects have been granted permission for film production in India** this year till November 2023, compared to the number of films granted approval as 28 for 2022 and 11 for 2021. He also informed that the incentive schemes for co-production of films under the Audio-Visual Co-production Treaty and for production of foreign films in India has been enhanced and further simplified by the Ministry of I&B to attract more international projects.
 - **National Museum of Indian Cinema (NMIC)** started a new initiative on 10.12.2023 to engage museum visitors to spend quality time with family and friends in the museum premises called '**Cine Sundays**'. The activities conducted with visitors under this initiative were '*Poster Making Competition*' to unleash their creativity and '*Ek Dum Filmy Style*' wherein visitors picked chits and acted out accordingly for which the best ones were rewarded. NMIC is also undertaking the

initiatives '**Chronicles of Timeless Treasures**' which involves screening of restored classics every Saturday and '**Panorama of Indian Cinema**' which conducts workshops for students to give them an insider view into the world of cinema.

- **National Seminar on Transforming Film Education:** A three-day long National Seminar on "Transforming Film Education" was hosted by Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI) from 13th to 15th December, 2023. It aimed to review and access the existing Film Education frameworks with the National Education Policy's vision and principles. Academic institutes from various regions across the country participated in this event. Discussions were held about the role that film schools can play in being game changers in the global entertainment landscape and about the need to adapt film pedagogy to be in tune with the requirements of the fast changing entertainment industry.
- **Digital Media:**
 - i. **Blocking of content:** One YouTube channel, one Instagram account, two Facebook accounts and one website were blocked for publishing content covered within the grounds referred to under section 69A of the IT Act.
 - ii. **Action on objectionable content without issue of formal blocking Orders:**
 - a) In coordination with PIB Fact Check Unit, 117 videos of 9 YouTube channels were fact-checked on 01.12.2023. Fake news published by these channels related to imposition of President's Rule in states, ban on EVMs and Rs. 200/500 currency notes, death of Union Ministers, closures of banks, etc. The information was flagged to YouTube. Eight of the nine fact-checked channels have been terminated.
 - b) On 06.12.2023, a video was flagged for spreading fake news related to Chief Justice of India, Election Commission, and claiming re-elections in certain states. In this regard, a fact-check was issued by PIB and the matter was flagged to YouTube. The concerned YouTube channel has been terminated.
 - c) On 27.12.2023, two Twitter URLs were flagged by Indian Army wherein false allegations related to Army's operations in Kashmir were made. The matter was flagged to Twitter and the concerned Twitter accounts have been suspended.
 - d) On 14.12.2023, a fake video showing the Hon'ble Prime Minister was fact-checked. The YouTube channel which published the video has been terminated.
- **FM Cell:**
 - A meeting of the Consultative Committee of MPs attached to the Ministry of I&B chaired by the Hon'ble Minister of Information & Broadcasting was held on 21.12.2023 in Parliament House Annexe on "**FM Radio – A Road Map Ahead**".
 - A draft note for Cabinet dated 07.12.2023 regarding "**Proposal for conduct of 3rd batch of Private FM Phase-III auctions and amendments to private FM Radio Phase-III Policy Guidelines**" has been circulated to concerned Ministries seeking their comments/ inputs.
- **Channel Licensing:** The Ministry of I&B has not granted any new permissions and has accepted the surrender request/ cancellation of 02 channels during the

month. The total number of private satellite TV channels for up-linking and downlinking in India as on 31.12.2023 is 911.

- **Community Radio Stations (CRS): Two (02) new Grant of Permission Agreements (GOPA) and three (03) renewed GOPA** were signed during the month. A **Community Radio Workshop** was organized in North East Region – Assam.
- Press Information Bureau (PIB) and its Regional offices have issued over **8513 Press Releases** in English, Hindi and 14 regional languages. PIB Fact Check Unit **busted 139 fake news** and posted 146 tweets. The Research Unit's Explainers highlighting the progress of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra received considerable media traction.
- Regional Offices (ROs)/ Field Offices (FOs) of CBC **conducted Integrated Communication & Outreach Programmes (ICOPs), field programmes and awareness on various themes such as Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, Ayushman Bharat, Ujwala Scheme, PM Awas Yojana, Jal Jeevan Mission etc. through Social Media** across the country as under:

Total No. of Tweets and Retweets (with 'Impressions')	Total No. of Facebook Posts	Total No. of Instagram Posts	Total No. of Posters/ Message /Videos circulated on WhatsApp
27840 (218793)	1165	204	9387

- **Social Media Coverage:** The social media handles of M/o I&B provided comprehensive coverage and publicity to various themes by sharing around **336 unique graphics/ videos/ images/posts/ tweets** etc.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra and other flagship campaigns were highlighted through infographics, reels, audio and video content for campaigns, such as Kashi Tamil Sangamam, National Consumer Rights Day, Kisan Diwas, The Press and Registration of Periodicals Bill 2023, Cabinet Decisions, MIB Podcast, MIBePositive, Weeknama etc.



(C. Senthil Rajan)

JOINT SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Tele. # 23382597