Sub.: Summary (No.-1) to the Cabinet on the significant activities of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for the month of January 2020.

The significant activities / events relating to this Ministry for the month of January 2020 are outlined below:

1.0 Hon'ble President of India Sh. Ram Nath Kovind released a book titled ‘Belief In The Ballot (Volume-2)’ published by the Publications Division in collaboration with Election Commission of India on the occasion of 10th National Voters’ Day on 25th January, 2020. The book is based on hundred plus stories from Indian Elections depicting the nation’s perseverance and commitment towards democracy.

1.1 The third edition of the interaction of Hon'ble Prime Minister with school students across the country ‘Pariksha Pe Charcha’ (PPC) 2020 was widely covered by the Media Units of this Ministry. DD News has telecast three-hour long special programmes including reactions from participating students. Interviews of over 60 students, parents and teachers and their reaction were used in bulletins and news based programmes by News Services Division, All India Radio (NSD, AIR) and its RNUs. Press Information Bureau (PIB) ensured wide coverage of the event in both national and regional print media. National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) Delhi produced 2 promotion films to highlight PPC and 7 cluster videos pan India to shoot questions from students to request the Hon'ble PM.

1.2 To mark the contribution of media in spreading the message of Yoga, the Hon'ble Minister for Information and Broadcasting Shri Prakash Javadekar conferred the First Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman (AYDMS) to 30 media organizations in three (3) categories of Radio, TV and Print Media, at an event held in National Media Centre, New Delhi on 7th January, 2020.

1.3 DD News is telecasting weekly 30 minutes special programme based on the theme “Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat (EBSB)” to popularise the theme of Unity in diversity. NSD AIR is airing daily show on EBSB on its Youtube channel. Under the series of EBSB, Bureau of Outreach and Communication (BOC) participated in ‘Bharat Parv’ organized by M/o Tourism on the sidelines of Republic Day at Lal Qila, Delhi by organizing a Multimedia Exhibition “Bapu Ke Sapno Ka Bharat, Aaj Ho Raha Saakaar” which showcased the life and philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi. The field units of BOC also organized Outreach Programmes on the theme of EBSB.

1.4 Information dissemination related to Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) is being done by the DD News and its Regional News Units (RNU) in coordination with M/o Health & Family Welfare. Exclusive sound-bytes on factual information, advisories, raising awareness about prevention of nCoV by experts, daily Ground Reports from Prasar Bharati correspondent based in Beijing etc. are being broadcast in Prime Time News Bulletins and News Based Programs of DD News, NSD AIR and its RNUs in different languages. Details of steps being taken by Central Government and other updates related to coronavirus are continuously shared through online news platforms and Social Media.
1.5 An outdoor campaign titled ‘Har Ek Kaam Desh Ke Naam’ was launched by Bureau of Outreach and Communication (BOC) in the month of January, 2020 on welfare initiatives of the government as well as its commitment to ensure a prosperous and secured future for all Indians. The outdoor campaign was comprehensively executed so as to cover about 16000 prime locations in 715 districts across the country. The themes covered included Strengthening Economy, Infrastructure, Farmers, Women, Poor, Youth, Middle Class, Bold Decisions, Digital India, and Emerging India.

1.6 DD News is comprehensively producing and telecasting special programme and disseminating Fact Check through bulletins and Social Media on the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) to dispel misconceptions about the same among the people. NSD AIR is providing coverage to the Nationwide Public Outreach programmes of BJP leaders and Central Ministers to dispel misinformation about CAA, including sound bytes and Ground Reports from States and UTs.

1.7 DD News telecast a series of special programmes on Pre-Budget & Budget 2020 as a run up to the presentation of the Budget 2020. NSD, AIR broadcast sound-bytes of common man and experts regarding expectations from Union Budget 2020 and exclusive interviews with CEA, VC NITI Aayog and experts on the state of Indian Economy and the bright prospects ahead. Social Media Cell of Press Information Bureau (PIB) actively publicized the Economic Survey related graphic tweets and posts on all platforms of social media.

1.8 India and Bangladesh signed key agreements in the field of Information and Broadcasting at the Information and Broadcasting Minister’s meet 2020, held in New Delhi on 14th January, 2020. The key agreements included the signing of a formal co-production agreement on the biopic of “BangaBandhu”, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, to be released during the birth centenary year of Bangabandhu and the launch of an airtime exchange programme between Prasar Bharati and Bangladesh Radio Betar.

1.9 The 16th Edition of Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) for Documentary, Short Fiction & Animation Films was organized by Films Division, Ministry of I&B, Government of India with the support of the Government of Maharashtra from 28th January to 3rd February, 2020. The Opening Ceremony of the event showcased the spirit and essence of ‘Ek Bharat, Shrestha Bharat’ through cultural and dance performances. At the Closing Ceremony the Golden Conch, Silver Conch and other Special Awards were conferred. MIFF 2020 instituted a special award for the best short film on Water Conservation and Climate Change and for the first time, nine short films made by intellectually challenged youngsters were screened at MIFF, thus giving a platform to youngsters with autism.

1.10 The Regional Outreach Bureau, Jammu and Kashmir region organized a two-day Zonal Conference of Media units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India at Jammu to strengthen synergy between the Media Units in order to ensure last mile delivery, while simultaneously brainstorm the use of new technology in communication. The participating states were UT of J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab and Delhi.

1.11 It has been decided that candidates desirous of seeking admission in Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata and Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune, both leading educational institutions in the art and craft of film
making and television production under the aegis of the Ministry of I&B, need to go through a multistage selection process from this year. The First Stage is an All India Level written examination called as the Joint Entrance Test (JET 2020), followed by Orientation (second stage) and Personal Interview (third stage). JET 2020 is fully online (https://applyadmission.net/jet2020), however, special provisions have also been made for candidates from Kashmir to apply for JET 2020 offline.

2.0 DD News is telecasting special weekly programme on “Hamara Samvidhan” to commemorate 70 years of adoption of the Indian Constitution. DD News is regularly telecasting ‘Mahatma ke Mantra’ every day on its channel to commemorate 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. DD News is also regularly telecasting Ground Reports on various flagship schemes of the Government, including more than 70 stories telecast during the month.

2.1 Daily bulletin ‘Badlav ki Bayaar’ focusing on the development in the UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh after the abrogation of Article 370 is being telecast by DD News. Wide coverage was provided by NSD, AIR to Union Ministers’ visit to disseminate information about developmental projects and welfare initiatives of the government in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh through sound-bytes and Ground Reports in news bulletins and updates on Social Media platforms.

3.0 Publications Division (DPD) participated in New Delhi World Book Fair 2020 held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 4th to 12th January, 2020 and registered a record sale of Rs. 52 Lakh, highest ever in itself in the entire history of DPD in any book fair. During the fair, a total of 16 books published by DPD in various genres were also launched.

3.1 A booklet on the achievements of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting in the year 2019 has been designed and printed by BOC. The booklet documented different activities done by the Ministry and its media units at various levels in detail. BOC also designed and printed a booklet for AYDMS 2020 organized by the Ministry.

4.0 A unique Smartphone Film Making Course for specially-abled children and young adults was conducted by Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) in Jaipur in two batches i.e from 20th to 24th & 27th to 31st January 2020. Out of 15 participants, 04 are hearing impaired, wherein Interpreters helped them in understanding the Course.

I&B Initiatives on Minimum Government Maximum Governance –

- **Channel Licensing** – Ministry of I&B has not issued any permission to Private Satellite TV channels during the month. Permission of 2 Non-News and Current Affairs permitted Private Satellite TV channel were cancelled. Hence, the total number of Private Satellite TV channels for Uplinking and Downlinking in India as on 31.01.2020 is 916.

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