Sub.: Summary (No.-11) to the Cabinet on the significant activities of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for the month of November 2016.

The significant activities / events relating to this Ministry for the month of November 2016 are outlined below:-

- In furtherance of Government initiative of “Ease of Doing Business”, the Ministry has completely done away with the “Annual Renewal” for permitted TV channels in the current form. This is going to benefit a total of 963 clients (Channels and Teleports). Payment of the annual fee itself will be treated as permission for continuation of the channel for a further period of one year.

- Press Council of India organized their Golden Jubilee on the 16th November, 2016 which also happened to be the National Press Day. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi graced the function where Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Minister for Information & Broadcasting, Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, Minister of State for Information & Broadcasting and Justice C. K Prasad, Chairman, Press Council of India, were also present. On the occasion, Eminent journalists and photo-journalists, Shri Surendra Nihal Singh, Smt. Mrinal Pande, Shri Raghu Rai, Shri Renjith John, Shri Arvind Kumar Singh, Shri Xavier Selva Kumar were awarded for their contribution to Journalism.

- The 47th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) was successfully organized by Directorate of Film Festivals in Goa from 20th November - 28th November, 2016. One new initiative of IFFI 2016 is to create a Film Promotion Fund which would provide financial assistance to the films which would be selected in any competition section of an International Film Festival of repute or being India’s official nomination to the Academy Awards. A Multi-Media Exhibition on the theme ‘Azadi 70 Saal: Yaad Karo Qurbani’ was organized on this occasion. Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Hon’ble Minister for Information and Broadcasting, inaugurated the festival.

    Acclaimed Korean film director and writer, Im Kwon Taek was conferred with prestigious ‘Lifetime Achievement Award’ on this occasion. Shri S. P. Balasubrahmanyam, acclaimed singer and Guinness Book record holder was conferred the Centenary Award for Indian Film Personality of the Year 2016 for his contribution to Indian Cinema.

- A two day Economic Editors Conference 2016 (EEC-2016) was organized by Press Information Bureau in collaboration with Ministry of Finance on 10th - 11th Nov., 2016 in Delhi. Union Ministers of Commerce & Industry, Railways, Road Transport and Highways, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Information
Technology participated in the conference where around 60 Economic Editors from different parts of the country were present.

- Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Minister of Information & Broadcasting, Urban Development and Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation on 30th November, 2016 addressed the officers of all these Ministries regarding the steps being taken by the Government for facilitating a less cash economy and encouraging digital and online transactions. He mentioned that the Government's JAM (Jan Dhan, AADHAR & Mobile) initiative would also facilitate this transformation.

- A book titled “Courts of India: Past to Present” published by the Publications Division was released on the occasion of Constitution Day on 26th November, 2016 by the Chief Justice of India, Justice T S Thakur in the presence of Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister for Law & Justice and Electronics and Information Technology. The book is published under the expert guidance of an Editorial Board constituted by the Supreme Court. The book attempts to identify the diverse court systems prevalent in India, map its historical origins and contextualize the present system of courts.

(Mhir Kumar Singh)

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