Sub.: Summary (No.-10) to the Cabinet on the significant activities of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for the month of October 2016.

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

- National Film Development Corporation, a media unit under the aegis of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, organized a Swachh Bharat Short Film Festival on 2nd October, 2016. Short films with a duration of 1-3 minutes were invited and a total of 4346 entries in more than 20 languages were received from across the country. Shri M Venkaiah Naidu, Minister for Information and Broadcasting felicitated the winners. The first prize was awarded to Shri Katyanan Shivpuri from Maharashtra for the film Murga. The second prize was given to Shri Sudanshu Sharma, Shri KVK Kumar and Shri Akshay Danavale for their films Nahna Doot, Chembuku Moodindi (The Dying Vessel) and Sarkarmi Rati Wadho! respectively. The third prize was awarded to six entries. The Directors of the top ten films were given cash awards of INR 10 lakhs (first film), 5 lakhs (next three films) and 2 lakhs respectively (last 6 films), while the next ten were awarded consolation certificates. Jury Members for the awards were eminent theatre personality and film actor – producer Ms. Vani Tripathi, award-winning filmmaker Ms. Gitanjali Rao, and celebrated advertising personality Mr. Prahlad Kakar. On the occasion, the Minister also announced that eminent filmmakers like Shri Madhur Bhandarkar, Shri Radhakrishna Jagarlamudi, Shri Prasoon Pandey, Shri Ramesh Sippy and Shri Shoojit Sircar had kindly consented to produce films on Swachh Bharat providing support and creative ideas to the movement.

- Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated an Exhibition titled “Mahatma Gandhi – Life History” organized by Exhibition Wing of Directorate of Advertising & Visual Publicity from 1.10.2016 to 4.10.2016 in Chennai. Minister for Information & Public Relations, Tamil Nadu, Shri Kadambur Raju and many other senior officials from the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting also participated in the Exhibition.

- As part of Gandhi Jayanti celebrations and to coincide with the anniversary of the Swachh Bharat Mission, Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu released a book titled ‘In The Footsteps of Mahatma : Gandhi and Sanitation’ authored by eminent Gandhian scholar, Professor Sudarshan Iyengar, which compiles Gandhiji’s views and speeches on the importance of sanitation in the country. The Minister also released 25 e-Books on Mahatma Gandhi brought out by Publications Division, including the eBooks of ‘Mahatma’, one of the most noted biographies of Gandhiji, by DG Tendulkar (8 volumes).
Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh and Governor of Punjab and UT of Chandigarh Shri V.P. Singh Badnore inaugurated a two-day long Regional Editors’ Conference for North and North Eastern States organized by Press Information Bureau in Chandigarh on 17th October, 2016. Minister for Women and Child Development, Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi and Minister of State for Prime Minister Office, Personnel and Public Grievances & Pensions, Development of North Eastern Region, Dr. Jitender Singh participated on the first day of the Conference. On the Second Day (18th October, 2016), Minister for Agriculture, Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Minister of Road Transport & Highways and Shipping, Shri Nitin Gadkari and Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, presided over different sessions. Around 90 Editors from the states of Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Tripura, Manipur, Mizoram and Chandigarh took part in the conference.

E-Auction of the Second Batch of Private FM Radio Phase III Channels commenced from 26th October, 2016. 266 FM Channels in 92 cities comprising 227 channels in 69 fresh cities and 39 unsold channels from 23 cities of batch I of Phase-III have been put on auction in the second batch. Under this activity, States of Uttrakhand and Nagaland and Border Area Towns of Poonch Mokukchung, Leh, Kathua, Kargil, Bhaderwa would get Private FM Channels for the first time. Daily auction report at the end of each day is published on Ministry’s website.

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