

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No. *363
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.04.2018)**

CONTRACTS TO LIVE COVERAGE OF EVENTS

***363. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA**

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Mumbai based firm had been awarded contracts for live coverage of opening and closing ceremonies of International Film Festival of India, Goa, 2017 instead of Doordarshan which covers bigger events like Republic Day and International Yoga Day;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons and justifications for the same;
- (d) whether Government would initiate an inquiry into the award of the contract to private firms instead of Doordarshan; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

{SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI}

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *363 FOR ANSWER ON 02.04.2018

(a) to (e) As was the practice since 2011, this year too, the opening and closing ceremony of International Film Festival of India (IFFI) was given to a private event management agency. In-principle approval was also accorded by Prasar Bharati board in their meeting held in October, 2017 for the commissioning of the episodes and marketing the film festival property to garner high ratings and revenue. This year new initiatives were also taken to make IFFI-2017 a magnificent event by bringing more professional experts and a private agency was engaged to enhance the production quality to world class level. SOL Productions Pvt Ltd., Mumbai was selected as production agency for organizing the opening and closing ceremonies of IFFI-2017, production of 42 episodes of serials in HD format each of 24 minutes duration to showcase the past, present and future of International Film Festival of India (IFFI) for telecasting by Doordarshan and multi camera setup for online/live editing/switching for the opening and closing ceremony. SOL Productions Pvt Ltd., Mumbai was selected by National Film Development Corporation through open tender enquiry on the basis of combined technical score and financial score of those bidders whose technical bids qualified.
