

NEWS UNIT OF DOORDARSHAN KENDRA BHOPAL

Doordarshan News Bulletin is the ultimate product of a variety of processes requiring teamwork and collective and cooperative action. Therefore, he utilizes the services of other staff in the Newsroom to produce a good news bulletin.

1. **Producer (News):**

The News Producer's function is very vital for a News production. He lined up and getting up all photographs, charts, maps, captions required to illustrate the news stories, looking for a and selecting any library film material to go with the news story. Booking news presenters. Briefing him/her about news cast and arrange for fee/payment etc. Viewing and checking the final news story before telecast.

2. **Correspondent / Reporters:**

The main function of the reporter is to cover events and functions and to file stories on them. On the spot he give the necessary guidance about film coverage to cameramen and sound recordist. He is required to interview or take a statement from a newsmaker occasionally and while doing so as far as possible he stays out of vision. Occasionally, he is required to do a piece to camera about events like exhibition, professions or important conferences. After consultation with the news editor the reporter views the film, helps in its editing and writes a story. The reporter also keeps himself acquainted the forthcoming events and keeps in touch with the Press information bureau, Information Departments and other news sources; he helps the Producer in compilation of the list of forthcoming events. Since the news unit of Doordarshan is in the process of development, cameramen are encourages to cover functions/events with proper details.

3. **Stringers:**

When an event to be covered is outside the limit of the city in which the kendra is situated and it cannot be economically covered by deputing the staff camera man of the Kendra or any other nearby kendra of Doordarshan, services of stringers who are to be selected and empanelled according to the prescribed procedure, may be utilized for coverage of news events of importance. According to the revised procedure for selection and empanelment of stringers circulated under DG: DD Memo No. 4/4/83-PIII dated 4.4.1983, election of stringers located in the zone of each kendra, is to be done by the Kendra's own Empanelment Committee constituted for this purpose.

4. **Selection, Empanelment, Utilization and Revision of Panel of stringers:**

The authority for selection, empanelment removal and revision of panel of Stringers for two years term in each Kendra would vest in a 5-member Committee constituted as under:-

- a. RNU In-charge as nominee of ADG (N&CA)/DG (News) -Chairman

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| b. | Engineer In-charge of the Kendra or his nominee | -Member |
| c. | Senior most Producer of the Kendra or his nominee | -Member |
| d. | Deputy Director (Admn)/Sr. Administrative officer
/Ad. Officer | -Member |
| e. | One outside expert Representative of the Films Division
/Pune Film Institute/SRFTI/IIMC/Head of Broadcast
Journalism in Universities | -Member |

The tenure of a panel is two years and after every two year new panel forms by the selection committee. Application for stringership invites through an advertisement in print media as well as in Doordarshan and AIR channels including News bulletin with One-month time to apply for the job. Where Kendra is located maximum 5 numbers of stringers may be included in the panel and in other cities, town and District headquarters can have up to 2 stringers.

Equipment and Facilities

Stringers can use Betacam equipment or 3-chip Digital CCD mini DV camera for coverages. They should also have adequate facilities and equipment to undertake the coverages. The requirements regarding camera, equipment and facilities would be reviewed from time to time to factor in technological changes in the area.

Stringers must have ownership of above equipment and preference given to those stringers who have mobile phones.

Experience and Qualification

Ideally, Stringers should be good camerapersons with good news sense. Therefore, the education and professional qualification and experience of the Stringers as a camerapersons as well as a newspersons taken into account while empanelling the stringers. Qualification and experience in Broadcast journalism and newsgathering taken into account while assessing the suitability of the Stringers.

Criteria for Selection and Empanelment

The Selection and empanelment committee may adopt a 5-stage process to empanel stringers. These Stages are 1) Preliminary Scrutiny to shortlist applicants. 2) Test coverage by short listed applicants. 3) Interview 4) Verification of equipment and documents. 5) Final List.

The final panel of the stringers drawn by the committee based on the eligibility as determined with the help of 1) Assessment scale. 2) Interview 3) The quality of the test coverages. The names of selected stringers should be published on the notice board of the office of the Kendra and all selected applicants also be informed in writing.

Each selected stringers have to sign a prescribed contract embodying essential conditions of services, fees, termination of contract etc.

Empanelled stringers will be required to deposit in the Kendra a security deposit of Rs.10000 or 10 per cent of the expected contract, amount, whichever is higher to ensure performance of the contract. The amount would be forfeited on failure to perform the contract.

Utilization of Services

It is the personal responsibility of the Head of RNU to ensure optimal and equitable utilization of the service of the stringers. Assignment may be given to the stringers only when:

- a) Film/ENG cameraman in the Kendra are not available being engaged for the coverage of another important assignment.
- b) The event cannot be economically covered by the staff cameramen of the Kendra or the event to be covered is outside the station of the Kendra.
- c) The news feed on the event cannot be obtained from ANI/PTI/UNI/I-Vision or any other television news agency with which the DD Kendra has entered into a contract.

The services of part time correspondents (PTC) of Prasar Bharati be suitably used for coverages. PTCs would be paid at the rates applicable to stringers if the visual footage of news coverage provided by them is used.

Roster

Doordarshan Kendra Bhopal maintains a Roaster of stringers and assignments are rotated as per the roster, so that all stringers get equitable number of coverages. The nominee of DTC regularly checks this Roster to ensure that assignments are fairly rotated.

Essentials of Coverage

The Coverages by stringer should contain all elements of a news story. For each coverage the stringer should provided **raw footage, dope sheet, press material and a script.**

Performance Evaluation and Register

The performance of stringers are monitored and evaluated continuously. A Register is maintained to record the details of assignment given to each stringer along with dates, event of coverage nature of coverages length of coverage and payment due/made, remarks especially with regard to quality and speed of coverage. It also shows the summary of number of local/ outstation coverages and fee paid in a month.

Removal of Stringers

Stringers may be removed from the panel on all or any of the following grounds:

- a) When the stringer refuses to cover the assigned coverages on two or more occasions.
- b) If the coverages are poor in content or in technical quality- (poor audio quality, noisy video, variation in chrominance or luminance levels, defocused pictures etc.)
- c) Delay in providing timely coverage.
- d) When the stringer is suspected to be sub-contracting the assigned work to others.
- e) If stringer are found to be operating a cartel system among themselves.
- f) If the information furnished by the stringer in the application form for empanelment is found to be incorrect.
- g) Any act on the part of the stringer, which creates embarrassment to Prasar Bharti.

In the case of the first default on account of a, b, c mentioned above a return communication shall be sent to the stringer so that he/she can improve performance.

Before removing the stringer from the panel, a show cause notice should be sent to the stringer asking why he/she should not be removed. The reply should reach the DD Kendra within 30 days of the issue of the Notice. If the reply is not found satisfactory or is not received the stringer would be removed from the panel. The order of removal of the stringer from the panel should be communicated to the stringer specifying the reasons for removal. The contract referred to provide for this action.

Stringers who are removed from the panel may prefer an appeal to the Director General, Doordarshan within 30 days of receipt of the order on removal. The Director General decision on the appeal shall be final.

Stringers can also get their name deleted from the panel voluntarily after giving at least 3 months notice to the DD Kendra.

Stringers who have been removed from the panel of a Kendra shall not be eligible for empanelment at any other Kendra of Doordarshan. The details of every removed stringer shall be circulated by the Kendra to the Directorate General as well as all the other Kendra.

Revision of the panel

The panel of stringers shall be revised every 2 years after completing all the processes explained in this Guideline.

Rates of Payment

The rates of payment to stringers will be fixed by orders issued by the office of the Directorate General, Doordarshan from time to time. For assigned local coverage a lump sum of Rs. 1000 (irrespective of length of the footage or usage of the coverage) inclusive of transportation charges will be paid for coverages done either in betacam or in 3 CCD Mini DV Camera.

In the case of outstation coverages which are coverage undertaken beyond 20 km from the center of the town/city where the stringer is empanelled or beyond 20 km from the Kendra in the case of stringers empanelled in the town Kendra- the stringer fee would be Rs. 1200 (irrespective of length of the footage or usage of the coverage) inclusive of transportation charges.

Payment shall not be made in the coverages of poor quality or if the coverage is delayed.

At present maximum ceiling for payment per stringer per annum is Rs. 2 lakh that may be relax by ADG (N&CA).

Above Guidelines are affective from 19.07.2004.

LIST OF APPROVED STRINGERS OF DOORDARSHAN KENDRA BHOPAL

Following stringers were empanelled as per previous scheme prior to 19.07.2004 and being paid as per rate enforced at that time are given below:-

S.NO.	NAME	DISTRICT
1	Shri R.C Sahu bimb TV	Bhopal
2	Ms. Preeti Tripathi	Bhopal
3	Shri Pankaj Shah	Jabalpur
4	Shri Shashank Mahule	Balaghat
5	Smiriti Films	Bhopal
6	Creative Studio	Indore
7	Aryans	Bhopal
8	Rajesh Sahu	Bhopal
9	Tele News	Bhopal
10	Ashok Chhadha	Bhopal
11	Era Films	Bhopal
12	Dilip Awasthi	Indore (Dhar)
13	P. C. Tople	Chhindwara
14	Institute of Social Education	Bhopal
15	Rajesh Munat	Ratlam
16	Prashant Shukla	Seoni
17	Sudhir Kasar	Mandla

18	Sanjay Chaudhary	Jabalpur
19	Sanjay Aggarwal	Itarsi
20	Sunil Sachan	Dhar
21	Institute of Social Education	Panna
22	Anil Anand	Katni
23	Dilip Kumar Gupta	Rewa
24	Anil Namdeo	Balaghat
25	Balaji Tele film	Betul
26	Sandeep Kulshreshtha	Ujjain
27	Ved Prakash Sharma	Vidisha
28	Paresh Upadhyay	Shajapur
29	Shankar Prajapati	Gwalior
30	Pramod Tiwari	Khandva
31	Rajendra Madhav Gupta	Narsingpur
32	Ashish Malviya	Hoshangabad
33	Rajnish Jain	Sagar
34	Narendra Panchal	Raisen
35	Sunil Choubey	Ashok Nagar
36	Rajni Khetan	Indore
37	Vinay Kumar Kesarwani	Jabalpur
38	Dinesh Sharma	Panna
39	Dheeraj Shah	Jabalpur

NEWS READERS

The primary function is to present the news at the time of telecast.

The News Readers is not only a passive communicator of news. He/she is a more active and constructive participant. The news reader has to be present in the news room sufficiently in advance of the telecast time to familiarise himself/herself with the trend of the news films and other visual materials going into the bulletin. He/she goes through bulletin at least once and rehearses the news reading before telecast.

News Reader receives from the Producer adequate briefing about the cues and other production techniques going into the bulletin.

Guidelines Regarding Selection of News Readers in Doordarshan

Following Criteria has been fixed by the Directorate Doordarshan New Delhi for selection of News readers: -

Age

21 to 40 years

Essential Qualification

- a) A Degree from a recognized University.
- b) Proficiency in the language concerned.
- c) Camera friendly face with a voice of a very good quality suited to broadcasting.
- d) Correct Pronunciation accent and modulation.
- e) Knowledge of current regional/Indian and foreign affairs.
- f) Acquaintance with names of important personalities in the Region / India and abroad.

Preferable

- h) Journalism background.
- i) Professional background in the fields of academics or related areas.
- j) Experience with television / Radio media.

Desirable

- k) Knowledge of English and Hindi.
- l) Ability to interview people who matter in news.
- m) Ability to write news stories and report events from the sports.

The procedure of selection will be: -

1. Selection of application by an Internal Committee (consisting of JD (N), Producer News and Senior ANE) to shortlist candidates fulfilling the stipulated qualification.
2. Interviewing short listed candidates to assess their personality Knowledge of current affairs and voice quality.
3. Those who qualify preliminary interview to be recorded on camera reading the news.
4. Recording of their news reading for five minutes in the language concerned will be examined by an expert committee of non-official and official members.

The Expert Committee will consist of: -

- a) Three outsiders experts to be approved by DDG (N&CA).
- b) One official from the Directorate: Doordarshan/DTC/ASD/Producer.
- c) DG (News)/his representative who will be the chairman.

List of approved News Readers of Doordarshan Kendra Bhopal

S.NO.	NAME	FEE PAYABLE
1	Sudha Sharma	Rs. 800/-
2	Sanjay Shrivastava	Rs. 800/-
3	Noin Khalik	Rs. 800/-
4	Neerja Bairagi	Rs. 800/-
5	S. P. Dubey	Rs. 800/-
6	Nahid Jahan Siddiqui	Rs. 600/-
7	Pramita Dubey	Rs. 600/-
8	Ujma Jamali	Rs. 600/-
9	Sunil Vaidya	Rs. 600/-
10	Padam Bhandari	Rs. 600/-
11	Rajshri Baluapuri	Rs. 600/-

Following candidates are placed for voice over News Duties:-

- 1) Manju Mehta
- 2) Preeti Tripathi
- 3) Rashmi Majumdar

They are paid Rs. 500/- per shift as & when required.
