

SEPO



HOME OFFICE  
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Prime Minister<sup>2</sup>  
No action until A  
arrives. But you may like  
to note B.

25 October 1989

Dear Paul

REC 6  
27/10

ms

ITV AND INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS

- file with PG

Thank you for your further letter of 4 October about Mr Eddie Shah and the independent production initiative.

The Home Secretary recognises the importance of setting a clear target for independent production, and he hopes to be able to circulate details of the proposed statutory provision to MISC 128 colleagues in the near future. His letter will, inter alia, deal with the question of the news exclusion and the point mentioned by Neil Thornton in his letter of 3 October whether the target should relate to the commissioning of programmes or their transmission.

1 A

The Prime Minister asked for sight of documents about the excluded categories. These categories were set out in a Parliamentary Written Answer to Mr Dafydd Wigley on 28 April 1988. A copy is enclosed.

1 B

I am copying this letter and enclosure to Neil Thornton (DTI).

this followed approach to this approach in MISC 128.  
RRC

Yours sincerely  
Sara Dent.

MS S J DENT

Paul Gray, Esq  
Private Secretary  
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sentences imposed on males aged 14 by the courts in four of the 43 police force areas in England and Wales: City of London, Gloucestershire, Suffolk and Warwickshire. Custodial penalties are not available for female offenders aged 14.

**Mrs. Virginia Bottomley:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what information he has about the subsequent criminal behaviour of 14-year-olds who have been sentenced to penal custody over the past 10 years.

**Mr. John Patten:** The readily available information relates to detention centre trainees aged 14 to 16 reconvicted within two years of discharge from a prison department establishment and is published in table 8.8 of "Prison Statistics, England and Wales, 1986" (Cm. 210), copies of which are in the Library. Information specific to 14-year-olds could be provided only at disproportionate cost.

### Television

**Mr. Wigley:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what information he has as to how many hours of television are produced for regional consumption by BBC Wales—Cymru and HTV Wales in 1988; and what are his estimates for each year to 1992.

**Mr. Renton:** The most recent available information is as follows. In 1987 HTV Wales produced for broadcast by the IBA 391 hours of regional interest material, and in the year ending 31 March 1988 410 hours of Welsh regional service material were broadcast on BBC1 and BBC2. In addition HTV produced 455 hours and the BBC 520 hours for broadcast by S4C. The additional information sought is not readily available.

**Mr. Wigley:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) what categories of programmes are excluded from contributing to the independent producers 25 per cent. target announced in November 1986;

(2) what categories of programmes are excluded when calculating the total hours of new programmes produced by broadcasters for the purpose of assessing the proportion to be produced by independent broadcasters announced in November 1986.

**Mr. Renton:** Both the BBC and the IBA have accepted, subject to satisfaction on the cost and quality of programmes provided by independent producers, the target of commissioning from them by the end of 1992 25 per cent. of original television output, drawn from a wide range of programmes but excluding, in the case of programmes broadcast by the BBC, news and news-related daily current affairs programmes, continuity and Open University output. In the case of programmes broadcast on ITV, material provided by ITN, continuity, the news-related studio output of TV-am and regional service material provided out of regional newsrooms will be outside the 25 per cent. target, but the IBA does not rule out the possibility that independent producers may contribute material in these categories.

**Mr. Wigley:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what information he has on the total number of new programmes produced by the BBC and ITV companies in 1988; and what are his forecasts for each year to 1992, showing in each case the total number of hours.

**Mr. Renton:** The most recent available information relating to programmes originated for network broadcast on BBC and ITV is as follows. In the year ending 31 March 1988 6,065 hours of such programmes were broadcast on BBC1 and BBC2, and in 1987 3,165 hours were broadcast on ITV (including programmes provided by ITN but not by TV-am). Present BBC plans envisage an increase to 6,241 hours by 1992. Comparable forecasts for ITV are not readily available.

### Passports

**Mr. Teddy Taylor:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if he will take steps to ensure that Mrs. Margaret Cynthia Moss of 9 Dunganon Drive, Thorpe Bay, Essex, who submitted her passport for renewal on 6 February receives her passport as soon as possible; and if he will consider establishing a procedure for cases of urgency so long as the current delays in passport applications and renewals continue.

**Mr. Renton:** The passport was returned by registered post on 25 April. As Mrs. Moss had not indicated a date of travel on the application form, her application was not accorded the priority it would otherwise have received under existing procedures.

### Member's Correspondence

**Sir Geoffrey Finsberg:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department when the hon. Member for Hampstead and Highgate will receive a definitive answer in respect of Mr. S. Taggart, Home Office reference number T160429, about whom a letter was sent on 25 March.

**Mr. Renton:** A reply will be sent shortly.

**Mr. Home Robertson:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if he will reply to the letter dated 7 December 1987 from the hon. Member for East Lothian concerning an application for naturalisation by Miss Anne-Margarethe Stroobants.

**Mr. Renton:** The application was approved in January, and a certificate sent to the applicant in March after she had taken the oath of allegiance. The certificate has, however, recently been returned, because the applicant had left her last known address.

I shall be replying shortly to the hon. Member's letter.

### Lotteries

**Mr. Corbett:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) what representations he has received from experts in the running of state lotteries for charitable purposes; and what consideration he is giving to any such representations;

(2) what recent consideration he has given to the running of a national state lottery to raise and distribute funds for good causes.

**Mr. John Patten:** As far as I am aware, none of the representations about state lotteries for charitable purposes which we have received in the past year has been from people expert in running such lotteries. We keep the question of running a national state lottery under review but have no current plans to introduce one.



BROADCASTING: May 9

