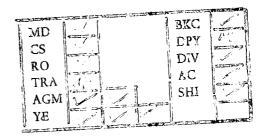
157h Annual Report 1996-1997







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ETELEFILMS

o be the leading round-the-clock air-time properties provider, delighting the viewers on the one hand, and providing value to the advertisers for their time and money, on the other.

To establish the company as the creator of entertainment and infotainment products and services to feast the viewers and the advertisers. Through these services, we intend to become an integral part of the global market. As a corporation, we will be profitable, productive, creative, trend-setting and financially rugged with care and concern for all stake holders.

Administrative Office

Mumbai

Anjani Complex Opp. Darpan Cinema Off Andheri Kurla Road Andheri (E), Mumbai 400 099

Delhi

J-27, South Extension Part - I, New Delhi - 110 049

Operations

Mumbai

99, Marol Cooperative Ind. Estate M V Road, Sakinaka, Marol, Andheri (E), Mumbai 400 059

Noida

FC 19, Sector 1/6-A Noida - 201 301 U.P.

Share Department

2006, Fossberry Road Near ICI Ltd. Reay Road (East) Mumbai 400 033

Phone 3781516/3766583

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SUBHASH CHANDRA - Chairman

VIJAY JINDAL - Managing Director

LAXMI NARAIN GOEL - Director ASHOK KUREIN - Director VASANT PAREKH - Director

■ Company Secretary

Satish K. Shah

Auditors

Ws M.G. Bhandari & Co. Chartered Accountants

Internal Auditors

Ws Price Waterhouse & Co. Chartered Accountants

■ Bankers

State Bank of India ANZ Grindlays Bank Plc. Banque National De Paris

Subsidiary Company

Ambience Space Sellers Limited

Page 3 Chairman's Speech 4 Dialogue 28 Year at a Glance Important Ratios 29 Historical Perspective 30 **ZTL Accounts** 32 Directors' Report Auditors' Report 37 40 Accounts **ASSL Accounts** 53 Directors' Report Auditors' Report 57 60 Accounts 72 Share Holders Diary

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS - ZEE TELEFILMS LIMITED



Subhash Chandra Chairman



Vijay Jindal Managing Director





Laxmi Goel Director



Ashok Kurien Director



Vasant Parekh Director

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fter five years of operations, Zee Network with its three channels, remains South Asia's premier Television Network. Today, it commands a majestic viewership of

120 million in India and 50 million in other countries.

The year 1996-97 has been a year of consolidated growth for the Network. ELTV and Zee Cinema which were launched to flank the mother channel ZEE TV served the purpose remarkably well, apart from creating their own identities. In the final analysis, the combined combative power of the three channels viz. ZEE TV, ELTV and Zee Cinema have enhanced the market share, mind share and profit share.

Most of the broadcasting companies especially in Hindi programming looked at two hours of programmes for prime time viewership from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm (IST). To obtain larger market share of advertising sales, as also to strengthen the company's exports, the company took a strategic decision to expand the programming across different time zones.

Zee Network is all set to emerge as a round-the-clock broadcasting medium with numerous options to viewers to choose from a wide spectrum of programming and to the advertisers, to choose from countless price packages. The company's renewed thrust on 'round-the-clock broadcasting' will give Zee Network an obvious competitive advantage. This will also provide us opportunities for creating newer programmes and seeking higher exports.



To institutionalize the process of management, on the one hand, and to industrialize creativity, on the other, the company has been able to integrate its resources across the departments with the aim of obtaining higher profitability, higher efficiency, higher output, higher exports, higher advertising sales and yet, lesser costs. The company has been able to attract among the finest talents from the fields of marketing, programming, journalism, communications and corporate management.

At the last meeting, I had assured you that 1996-97 would be a year of consolidation in my response to your own similar sentiments. We, at Zee Network have realized that having set up the present size of our business, we could now, make bigger gains by harnessing our assets without having to go in for more expansion.

The spirit of consolidation which evolved at the last Annual General Meeting, indeed, has permeated throughout the company and we now look forward to further realize the gains of consolidation.

The future prospects appear to be bright; yet as a corporation we cannot afford to rest on our laurels and be complacent. We have to keep availing emerging opportunities in programming & marketing for better bottom lines.

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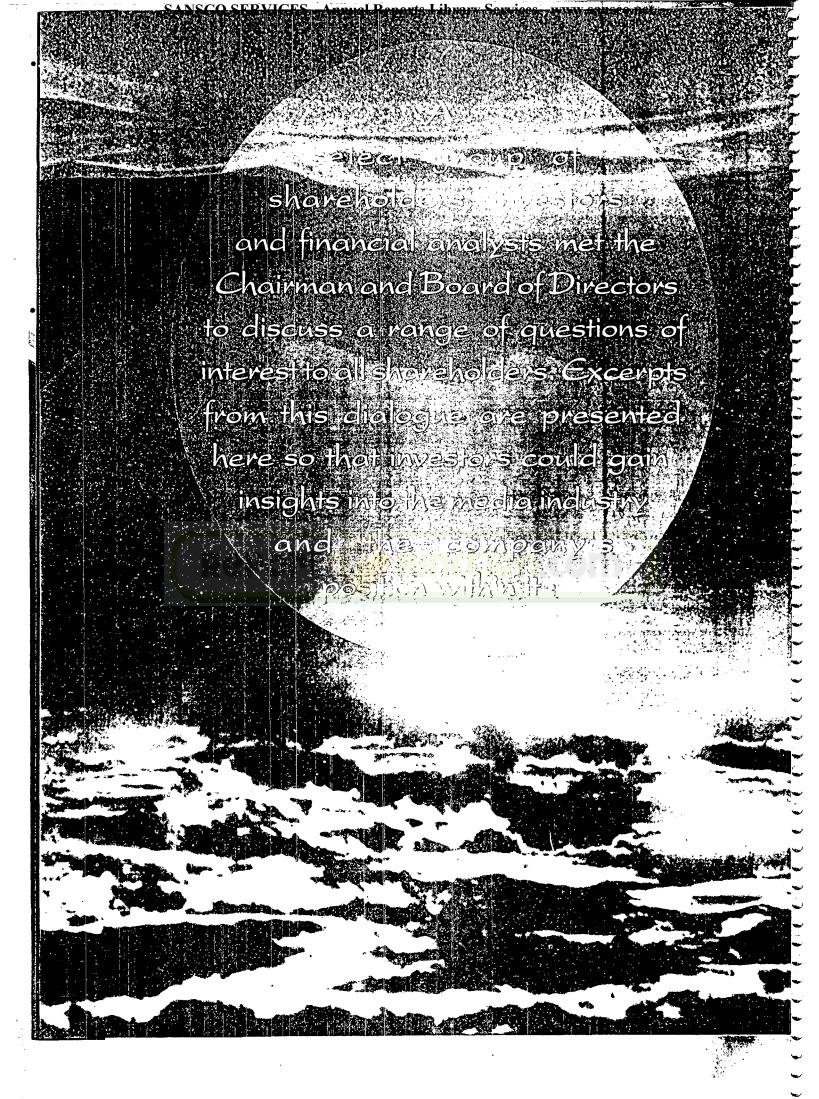
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How do you look at the future of satellite broadcasting as an industry ?

The media industry, be it Doordarshan channels or satellite TV channels or newspapers or magazines or radio, thrive on the share of advertising income. In India advertising income has largely been the exclusive preserve of newspapers, magazines and Doordarshan channels with nominal share for radio.

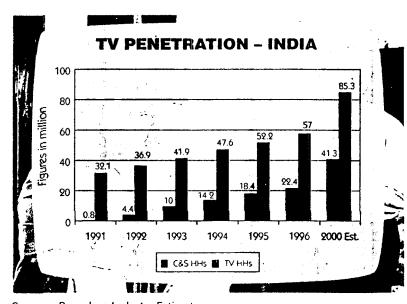
India is home to an ad-spend of more than Rs.4700 crores per year. With the meteoric growth in the electronic media comprising satellite TV channels and Doordarshan channels, there is a clear shift of advertising from newspapers and magazines to television channels. Worldwide advertising has shifted from established newspapers to newly launched TV channels. These shifts have been based on the inherent strength of the reach of any terrestrial or satellite channel.

At the most, a newspaper having been established, say 100 years ago, could acquire a circulation of a million copies with the reader's mind involvement of say 15 to 20 minutes daily, whereas, even the newly launched satellite TV channels, from the very inception, have inbuilt reach many times over the circulation of the largest selling newspapers.

To elaborate, Zee TV in less than 5 years has established a viewership among 22 million homes with its viewership in India alone exceeding 120 million

viewers. The sheer reach of a TV channel is what makes it an impregnable and unmatchable media organ as compared to the limited reach of even the leading newspapers in India.

Advertising and promotion in the past served a limited role of publicity unlike today, when advertising is emerging as an integral part of the product. Most of the



Source : Based on Industry Estimates

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a significant share of their GDP on advertising unlike in India where the ad spend is a mere fraction.

Now that the national markets are merging into a global market place, the business community in Asia is looking

their sales across the continents.

Newspapers have a limited reach within the given territories while television footprints cover numerous countries. Thus to expand this business in international markets, an entrepreneur has to make increased use of advertising on television. Television also has the advantage of power of visuals to do 'hardsell' for his

Television is many times more cost effective than To newspapers.

products.

successful countries in Asia and across the globe spend

forward to expand

ADVERTISING SPENDS 10000 5000 2500 1999 2000 **1996 1997** 1998

ADVERTISING SPENDS Rs. in crores					
Years	Press	DD	Satellite	Others	Total
1993	1700	412	90	242	2444
1994	2010	547	189	278	3024
1995	2450	670	330	339	3789
1996	2850	920	510	420	4700
1997	3400	1150	750	500	5800
1998	4050	1400	950	650	7050
1999	4800	1700	1200	780	8480
2000	5650	1950	1450	950	10000

Source: Industry Estimates

elaborate, if an advertiser spends say Rs. 25 - 30 to reach out to a thousand people through the medium of newspapers with a limited space of just one column

centimeter, he could advertise through television with a cost as little as Rs.3 to 5 and with bigger impact.

Moreover, the businesses are now also looking at the markets in the countryside including semi urban and rural market where newspapers have lesser reach. Television is thus emerging as a natural choice for the advertisers as compared to newspapers.

Now that the import duties are coming down and we Indians are increasingly getting on a level playing field in terms of lower tax rates, customs duties vis-à-vis rising disposable income, signs of the consumerism era are imminent on the national horizon.

> this Given background, the advertising spend on TV channels currently in the region of Rs.1300 to 1400 crores is about a third of the total advertising cake of Rs. 4700 Crores. This is all set to cross 1 Billion dollars mark (Rs.3500 crores) by 2001.

> The reach of satellite TV channels currently at 22 million homes in all likelihood shall exceed 40 million homes by the year 2001.

Just as worldwide newspapers have had

to contend with the declining shares in advertising volumes and profits, with many in fact, slipping in to red, in India