

DD has to change

Sir: Doordarshan programmes these days can best be described as mediocre. Though it is facing threat of being relegated to a position of nobody due to the invasion of satellite networks, the attitude of Doordarshan has not changed much. Already Doordarshan news is neglected by most of the people in India who have access to BBC and CNN. Apart from expressing only the views of the ruling party, DD news is frequently rendered ineffective by the number mistakes made by news readers, cameramen and showing of wrong captions and photographs. One such instance probably went unnoticed by many viewers. When the sports news about the India-SL cricket test match on July 29 was told, instead of showing the photographs of Manoj Prabhakar and Navajoth Singh Sidhu, the photographs of Arshad Ayub and Sidhu were shown. No apologies nor any correction was made for this mistake. Infact, the insensitive Doordarshan people wouldn't have realised that such a mistake had happened.

On the same day, when the announcer was giving the details about the programme schedule for the day at 8.45 p.m., said that 'Turning Point' would be telecast at 9.15.p.m. But we were all expecting 'Malgudi Days' at 9.15.p.m. on that day. So we were shocked. However, after the details about the rest of the programmes was given, the error was regretted by the announcer and the actual programme 'Malgudi Days' was telecast. Though these could seem as very small things, these would severely undermine the standard of Doordarshan programmes. So in order to be in the race with the satellite television networks, DD will have to avoid such blunders in future.

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