

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding All India Radio broadcasts in Santhali language and introduction of a Santhali Channel in Doordarshan-laid.

SHRI KUNAR HEMBRAM (HARGRAM): All India Radio broadcasts National News bulletins in all the languages included in the 8th schedule of the Constitution, except Bodo, Maithili and Santhali through the Central News Units of News Services Division.

Speakers fewer than Santhali enjoy 20-25 minutes broadcast in national and regional news bulletins. But the national broadcaster broadcasts only 5 minutes news bulletin from Kolkata and Ranchi, and there is no national news bulletin in Santhali at all.

Santhal people are also required to be acquainted with national and international affairs as well as regional news in their mother language. Therefore, it is requested to the Minister of Information and Broadcasting through you that All India Radio should start broadcasting National News bulletins from its News Services Division in New Delhi with increased duration in Santhali language, and also introduce a dedicated Santhali channel in Doordarshan.