

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:406
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2000
NEW REGULATORY MECHANISM FOR DOORDARSHAN
ANANDRAO ADSUL;DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up a new regulatory mechanism for Doordarshan including various foreign channels and cable operators in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the delegation of cable operators from Mumbai has urged the Government to help them against the monopolistic exploitation of foreign channels;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (f) whether Doordarshan is likely to be developed into a major public service broadcasting; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT

(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) & (b): The Government proposes to introduce a comprehensive legislation before the Parliament with a view to provide for a regulatory mechanism for various aspects of Broadcasting.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d) & (e): In a representation dated January 26, 2000, All India Cable Operators Association and BRISCA of Mumbai have sought for regulating the interface of foreign satellite channels with the cable operators. These and various other issues related with Cable TV regulation will be taken into account while finalizing the proposed legislation on Broadcasting.

(f) & (g): The Prasar Bharati (DD & AIR) is the only Public Service Broadcaster in our country. The Government is extending all necessary assistance so as to make it even more effective. A Committee has also been constituted to study the working of Prasar Bharati and suggest necessary changes in its organisational structure, systems and other relevant areas to ensure quality, credibility and professionalism in Prasar Bharati.