

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6141
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2000
REGIONAL CHANNEL
ASHOK KUMAR PATEL;RAMDAS ATHAWALE;RAMPAL SINGH

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

- (a) whether to have a check on the anti-India propaganda on Pakistani T.V., any regional channel has been launched or proposed to be launched in Jammu and Kashmir;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government propose to launch regional channels in the country during 2000- 2001;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount estimated to be spent thereon, State-wise;
- (e) the time by which these are likely to be launched; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefore?

Answer

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

(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) & (b): To popularize Doordarshan coverage in Jammu and Kashmir, a refurbished Kashmir Channel in terrestrial mode with extended transmission time from two hours to 15 hours per day has been launched from 26.1.2000. Entertainment oriented programmes including programmes on women, youth, children, sports, current affairs etc. are being telecast on this channel.

(c) to (f): Other than the Kashmir Channel and the terrestrial regional networks (national terrestrial network gets disaggregated into regional networks during certain hours of the day), there are 10 Regional language satellite channels being operated by Doordarshan which provide adequate coverage, through out the country. Since January, 2000, the telecast duration of seven Regional language satellite channels, i.e. Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Tamil and Telugu, have been increased to 24 hours. There is a proposal to increase the telecast duration of Punjabi Channel to 24 hours during the current financial year. However, there is no proposal to launch any new regional channel during 2000- 2001.