

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:745
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2002
STORM BREWING OVER DD NEWS
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

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

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `storm brewing over DD News` appearing in the Hindustan Times dated June 27, 2002;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether her Ministry and Prasar Bharati are at loggerheads over the move of launching much published news channel;
- (d) if so, whether the proposed new DD channel is economically viable keeping in view the stiff competition posed by other news channels; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati has informed that at present, there is no proposal to start a News Channel.
- (c), (d) & (e): Do not arise.