

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:483

ANSWERED ON:04.12.2003

WINDING UP OF METRO CHANNEL

A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR;SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL

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

- (a) whether erstwhile popular Doordarshan entertainment Channel DD Metro was earning huge profits;
- (b) if so, the details of the profits earned by the Channel to the exchequer;
- (c) the reasons for converting this Channel into a 24 hours News Channel; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to restore free air telecast of Metro Channel in all over the country particularly sub-urban and rural areas?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD

(a) & (b) : Prasar Bharati have intimated the details of the revenues earned by DD-Metro during the last five years as follows:-

Year Amount (Rs. in crores)

1999-00	46.18
2000-01	87.29
2001-02	82.32
2002-03	22.77
2003-04	10.39

(till 31st October, 2003)

Profit and loss account is not maintained by Prasar Bharati.

- (c) Prasar Bharati has informed that the decision has been taken to fulfil a growing desire for news among the viewers, particularly among those without cable connection.
- (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that there is no such proposal under consideration.