

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3855

ANSWERED ON:23.12.2004

DELAY IN DTH

Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati; Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed; Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a) whether the Prasar Bharati Corporation's Rs. 500 crore ambitious Direct to Home (DTH) project that was to be launched by Prime Minister has been delayed;
- (b) whether the Ministry has raised objections on the proposed inclusion of private channels;
- (c) whether the another reasons for delay in clearance of the project is that the enterprise would not be financial viable for the first two years;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which it is likely to be launched?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

- (a) & (b) : No, Sir. The inclusion of private free-to-air channels in the DTH bouquet of Doordarshan had the approval of the competent authority. There has been no delay in the commissioning of the project. The project was completed within the target date of completion.
- (c) & (d) : Does not arise since the project has been commissioned within the stipulated period.
- (e) : The project has been launched on 16.12.2004.