

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1242
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013
ENGLISH NEWS CHANNEL
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Thomas Shri P. T.

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

- (a) whether Prasar Bharati proposes to launch an exclusive English News Channel which will be telecast internationally;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Prasar Bharati has not been able to compete with private channels;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of measures taken to revamp the Prasar Bharati; and
- (e) the time by which the said channels are likely to be launched/made operational?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI)

- (a) & (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that no final decision on the launch of a dedicated English News Channel has been taken as yet
- (c) & (d) Prasar Bharati is a public broadcaster which has been created under an Act of Parliament. The Prasar Bharati Act casts upon Prasar Bharati certain duties and responsibilities of public service and it is not driven primarily by commercial considerations.
- (e) No time frame has been set as of now.