

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6634
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013
PROGRAMMES ON DD URDU CHANNEL
Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Shri Yashvir

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

- (a): whether majority of the viewers of the programmes telecast on Doordarshan (DD) Urdu channel belonged to a particular community ;
- (b): if so, whether the said channel has telecast cooking programme titled 'Taste Ki Baat Hai' in the recent past which presented a recipe prepared from pork hurting the religious sentiments of a section of its viewers and evoked strong opposition from the said community;
- (c): if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d): whether the Government has inquired/proposes to inquire into the said issue; and
- (e): if so, the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government/Prasar Bharati to ensure that such programmes are not telecast on TV channel in future?

Answer

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

(a)to(c): Prasar Bharati has informed that DD Urdu Channel is viewed by Urdu knowing as well as Urdu speaking people cutting across all religions/regions. The programme "Taste Ki Baat Hai" is a series based on the cuisine and culture of various communities and regions of India. The programme, under this series, which was telecast on 9.4.2013, talked of five favourite recipes of Eastern Christian Community merely mentioning pork vindaloo as being one of them.

(d)&(e): Prasar Bharati has informed that the issue was inquired into in detail by Director General, Doordarshan.