

**Punjabi language in DD and AIR**

353. SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) Governmentus policy as regards Punjabi language is concerned;
- (b) the number of news bulletins in Punjabi broadcast by Doordarshan and All India Radio on national or international bulletins;
- (c) the status of Punjabi language on Doordarshan and Radio in Jammu and Kashmir, the details of news bulletins, timings and other programme being shown in the State; and
- (d) the status of Punjabi language in Haryana and Himachal Pradesh on the local Doordarshan and Radio Stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA) : (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that AIRus communication policy envisages broadcasts in different languages and dialects to meet the communication needs of listeners in the various parts of the country. Similarly Doordarshan telecasts programmes in all major languages including Punjabi.

(b) AIR produces and broadcasts three National and one External bulletin in Punjabi from Delhi. Two Punjabi regional bulletins are broadcast from AIR, Chandigarh. Doordarshan telecasts one Punjabi bulletin on DD India, four bulletins on DD-Punjabi and three regional bulletins from DDK, Jalandhar. DDK, Chandigarh also telecasts local news bulletin in Punjabi on every Monday and Wednesday.

(c) AIR Stations and DDKs in Jammu & Kashmir do not broadcast Punjabi bulletins. Various programmes are broadcast in Punjabi from Radio Kashmir, Srinagar and Radio Kashmir, Jammu. Similarly, Punjabi programmes are telecast by DDKs in Jammu and Srinagar.

(d) In Haryana, AIR, Rohtak and DDK, Hissar broadcast programmes in Punjabi. In Himachal Pradesh, AIR, Shimla, Dharmshala and Hamirpur broadcast Punjabi music etc. and DDK, Shimla telecasts programmes in Punjabi occasionally.

**Autonomous body to look into broadcasting sector**

354. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up an autonomous body to look into the broadcasting sector; and
- (b) if so, the terms of reference, objectives and composition of such a body?