

Telecast of Sindhi programmes

†1930. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that representatives of Sindhi Samaj in the country has requested to allocate time for telecast of Sindhi language programmes round the clock on Doordarshan;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Doordarshan has the facility to telecast programmes in other Indian regional languages;

(c) if so, the names of such languages; and

(d) the reasons for not accepting the request for allocation of time for telecast of Sindhi language programmes, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) This Ministry and Doordarshan have received requests from the representatives of Sindhi Samaj for telecast of 24 hours Sindhi language programmes on Doordarshan.

(b) and (c) Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan telecasts programmes in all Indian regional languages including Sindhi from its various Kendras from time to time.

(d) Prasar Bharati has informed that it has not been possible to allocate time for telecast of Sindhi language programmes round the clock on Doordarshan as presently DD have only 11 regional language satellite channels out of the 22 languages included in the 8th scheduled of the constitution. However, these languages are being covered by the regional Kendras of their respective regions in their programming. Since majority of Sindhi population, which is spread over the country, is residing in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, DD caters to its Sindhi viewers by having programmes on DD-Gujarati i.e DDK, Ahmedabad, on DD-Sahyadri i.e., DD, Mumbai and on DD-Jaipur i.e., DDK, Jaipur. Apart from this Sindhi programmes are also telecast on DD Bharati and DD India.

Assistance to Punjab for Gram Nyayalayas

1931. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Punjab has sought central assistance to meet recurring/non-recurring expenditure for two Gram Nyayalayas;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.