

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1030
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2022)**

TELECAST OF QUALITY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES

1030. DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to provide adequate importance to quality educational channels and programmes by both Prasar Bharti and private sponsor programmes as well as the programmes by CSIR and UGC;
- (b) the funds allocated, disbursed and utilised in the last five years for the production and telecast of quality education programmes, year-wise;
- (c) the details of the educational programmes done in various regional languages to reach out to the people from all linguistic areas in the country; and
- (d) whether Government has a catalogue of such programmes made during the last 5 years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a): Prasar Bharati is telecasting 51 co-branded educational TV channels which are available to the viewers of “DD FreeDish”, a free-to-air DTH service, as per MoU signed with Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-Informatics

{BISAG(N)}, a PSU with Ministry of Electronics & IT, Government of India. These channels can be viewed across the country free of cost with the help of a small sized dish and set top box, which does not require any mobile connectivity.

(b): Ministry of Education, Department of Higher Education has informed that an amount of Rs.165.521 Cr. was released under Swayam Prabha Project towards Transponder charges, Uplinking cost and DTH content creation during the last five years (2018-19 to 2022-23).

(c) & (d): Time slots on various Regional Language Satellite Services Channels/ State Network channels of Doordarshan Network are being provided to various State Governments/ State Government bodies as per their requests for telecast of Educational Programmes, depending on feasibility.

During the years 2020-21 and 2021-22, Educational Programmes were telecast in different languages by Doordarshan on the following Regional Channels:

DD Uttar Pradesh, DD Yadagiri, DD Punjabi, DD Madhya Pradesh, DD Girnar, DD Bihar, DD Chandana, DD Jharkhand, DD Sahyadri, DD Uttarakhand, DD Meghalaya, DD Rajasthan, DD Nagaland, DD Assam, DD Oriya, DD Arun Prabha, DD Kashir, DD Himachal, DD Malayalam, DD Port Blair, DD Tripura and DD Mizoram.

All India Radio also broadcast similar education programmes in 2020-21 and 2021-22 through the following stations:

AIR Kargil PC, AIR Vijaywada, AIR Jammu, AIR Cuttack, AIR Bengaluru, AIR Lucknow, AIR Silchar, AIR Jaipur, AIR Guwahati, AIR Kohima PC, AIR Srinagar, AIR Shilong, AIR Portblair, AIR Bhopal, AIR Patiala and AIR Chennai.
