

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2281**

**(TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2022)**

**BROADCASTING IN URDU LANGUAGE**

**2281. KUNWAR DANISH ALI:**

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

- (a) the number of bulletins being broadcasted on Doordarshan (DD) in Urdu language;**
- (b) whether Prasar Bharati has reduced the number of daily news bulletins broadcast in urdu language on DD Urdu ignoring the Urdu language;**
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;**
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to resume Urdu services and to promote and develop the Urdu languages; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) Prasar Bharati broadcasts two news bulletins of half-an hour duration on “DD Urdu” channel. In addition, Urdu bulletins of various durations are also telecast on daily basis on regional channels, namely, DD Kashir, DD Bihar, DD Bangla, DD Uttar Pradesh, DD Madhya Pradesh and DD Yadagiri originating from Srinagar, Patna, Kolkata, Lucknow, Bhopal and Hyderabad respectively. The details of such bulletins are as under:-**

<b>Name of the channel</b>	<b>Number of Urdu Bulletins</b>
<b>DD Urdu</b>	<b>02</b>
<b>DD Kashir</b>	<b>07</b>
<b>DD Bihar</b>	<b>03</b>
<b>DD Bangla</b>	<b>01</b>
<b>DD UP</b>	<b>01</b>
<b>DD MP</b>	<b>01</b>
<b>DD Yadagiri</b>	<b>04</b>

**(b) & (c): In the wake of the Corona pandemic, live programming across DD Channels was rationalised to maintain social distancing, including reduction in Urdu bulletins telecast on “DD**

**Urdu". However, this channel is carrying Urdu content round the clock.**

**(d) & (e): Prasar Bharati is operating "DD Urdu" satellite TV channels on 24X7 basis dedicated for the Urdu language programmes. "DD Urdu" channel was launched on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2006 to preserve and promote the great cultural heritage of Urdu language in India. It provides its viewers with profound content in Urdu language.**

**In addition, various other DD channels, namely, DD Kashir, DD Punjabi, DD Bangla, DD Chandana, DD Urdu, DD Bihar, DD Madhya Pradesh, DD Uttar Pradesh, DD Yadagiri, DD Haryana also telecast programmes in Urdu language.**

**Further, Prasar Bharati also broadcasts News in Urdu originated by News Services Division and Regional News Units, from 32 AIR Channels for a total duration of more than 15 hours every day.**

**In addition, other Urdu Programmes are also broadcast on 47 AIR channels for a total duration of 22 hrs of daily programs, 27 hrs of programs that air on weekly basis, and 7 hrs of programmes, which air on monthly basis.**

**In addition, All India Radio also broadcasts Urdu programmes for a duration of 9 hours 30 minutes daily on its AIR Neighbourhood Service-I from 0930 hrs to 1315 hrs, from 1500 hrs to 1700 hrs and from 2115-0100 hrs for the interest of international listeners.**

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