

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 513
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23-07-2025**

EXPANSION OF DOORDARSHAN FREE DISH

513. SHRI BHOJRAJ NAG:
SHRI ALOK SHARMA:
DR. BHOLA SINGH:
MS KANGNA RANAUT:
SHRI KHAGEN MURMU
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

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

- (a) the manner in which the number of registered publications and private satellite TV channels evolved during the recent years; and
- (b) the details regarding the expansion of Doordarshan Free Dish, DTH services and All India Radio especially in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh and rural or remote regions?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(DR. L. MURUGAN)

(a) and (b): India has a vibrant press and media ecosystem, which has witnessed growth in recent years, as mentioned below:

- Number of publications registered with the Press Registrar General of India has increased from 1.05 Lakh in 2014-15 to 1.55 Lakh in 2024-25.
- Number of private satellite TV Channels have also increased from 821 in 2014-15 to 908 in 2024-25.

As of today, 92 private channels and 50 Doordarshan Channels are available on DD Free Dish. Both private and DD channels operate in various regional languages, ensuring wider audience reach across the country.

Expansion of Prasar Bharati's network across the country is a continuous process undertaken under the Broadcasting Infrastructure & Network Development (BIND) Scheme 2021-26.

Three transmitters have been approved under this scheme in Himachal Pradesh. These include 5kW transmitter in Mandi and 1kW FM transmitters in Chamba and Dharampur each.
