

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3064

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2000

CLOSURE OF REGIONAL NEWS UNITS

CHELLAMELLA SUGUNA KUMARI;KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU;SAMUDRALA VENUGOPAL CHARY;SUBODH MOHITE

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to close All India Radio`s regional news units in the country;
- (b) if so, the details therefor particularly in regard to Delhi; (
- (c) the reasons for winding up regional units;
- (d) whether news readers of these regional news units have shown resentment against their transfers and closure of units; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a), to (e): No, Sir. Regional News Units in State capitals and other important cities are not being closed. Prasar Bharati has informed that for bringing about improvement in the quality of news programmes and to provide manpower in regional centres for operationalising 24-hour FM Radio News Channel, it had decided to shift 8 Indian Language Units stationed at Delhi to the respective State capitals. However, the matter is being reconsidered after representations were received against the decision.