

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1206
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2005
EXTERNAL SERVICES DIVISION PROGRAMMES
Meinya Dr. Thokchom

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

- (a) the Indian Languages in which the External Service Division of AIR relay its programme and bulletin;
- (b) the criteria adopted for the selection of language for this External Services Division programmes;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to relay the programmes of External Services Division in some more Indian Languages which are now included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING & CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) & (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that the External Service Division of AIR broadcasts programmes and News Bulletins in eleven Indian Languages viz. Tamil, Telugu, Bengali, Gujarati, Punjabi, Saraiki, Sindhi, Hindi, Malayalam, Kannada and Urdu. These languages were introduced keeping in view the linguistic background of the Indian immigrants in countries covered by AIR's short wave broadcast.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.