



Lok Sabha Television Channel (LSTV)



Lok Sabha Secretariat
New Delhi

Lok Sabha Television Channel (LSTV)

With a view to bringing the institution of Parliament nearer to the people, two separate dedicated satellite Channels were launched on 14 December 2004 for the live telecast of the entire proceedings of the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha nation-wide by Doordarshan. A landmark was achieved in the history of telecasting of parliamentary proceedings when the then Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, in consultation with Leaders of political parties represented in the Lok Sabha, decided that the Lok Sabha should have its own Television Channel, independent of Doordarshan. Accordingly, a Transmission Room and a Studio were set up in the Parliament Library Building from where the live proceedings of the Lok Sabha received from the Production Control Room in Parliament House through Optical Fibre Connectivity and programmes recorded in the Studio are being transmitted.

A sophisticated robotic camera system with a studio set up in Parliament House for the live telecast of the complete proceedings of Parliament had become operational with effect from the Winter Session of Parliament in 1997 and, after the inception of the Lok Sabha Television (LSTV) Channel, the Production Control Room was upgraded by the High Definition Technology Equipment from the Monsoon Session of 2007. There are ten robotic cameras which are operated by remote control from the state-of-the-art studio set up in Parliament House. The televised proceedings of the Lok Sabha are properly captioned/titled through the Modern Graphics System, also installed in Parliament House. Since 11 May 2006, besides the live telecast of the Lok Sabha proceedings, several programmes began to be telecast on the Lok Sabha Television Channel.

The LSTV became functional as a 24-hour Channel from 24 July 2006. The LSTV Channel is a unique Channel as it is owned and operated by a House of Parliament.

In addition to the live telecast of proceedings of the Lok Sabha and other significant events in

Parliament, such as the Address of the President to Members of both Houses of Parliament sitting together at the commencement of the first Session of each year, the Channel also features various informative, interactive and substantial value-added programmes of general interest on issues relating to democracy and governance, social, economic and constitutional issues and citizens' concerns.

Programmes during Parliament Sessions

- **Agenda (Hindi & English):** An hour-long, studio-based live show that features discussion on issues coming up before the Lok Sabha each day when the House is in session. The programme also provides some background information on the papers to be laid before the House, as well as various bills and other issues that are listed to come up during the day.
- **House Highlights (Hindi & English):** A half-an-hour, studio-based, live wrap-up of the day's proceedings in the Lok Sabha in Hindi and English.
- **Dateline:** Half-an-hour summary of the week's proceedings of the Lok Sabha. (weekly wrap-up of House proceedings).

Other Programmes (Hindi)

- **Lok Manch:** A live one-hour, studio-based discussion on a current topic or issue of public concern.
- **Legal Point:** An anchor and panel based programme that takes up people's legal problems and gives them expert views and opinions on them.
- **Sansad Se Sadak Tak (From Parliament to the Streets):** A half-an-hour weekly programme featuring a discussion with an expert panel on the impact on the common people of the decisions taken in Parliament.
- **Adhyaksha Mahoday:** A series featuring Speakers of Legislative Assemblies of different States of India.

- **Vishesh:** An investigative current affairs programme on social issues and/or Government schemes and plans.
- **Surkhiyon Se Parey:** A weekly news capsule comprising interesting stories beyond the headlines.
- **Aanchal Mein Aakash:** Film based series on issues affecting women.
- **Sahitya Sansar:** A Hindi literary magazine show in 4 parts, featuring a discussion with an eminent Hindi literateur on a recent literary event, a recently published book, a popular library and a profile of a legendary writer.
- **Amne Samne:** An exclusive interview with a well known national figure.
- **Hamari Sansad:** Brief History of Indian Parliamentary System.
- **Vigyan Darpan:** Science News and breaking through in Hindi.
- **Bharat Ek Khoj:** Shyam Benegal's interpretation of Pt. Nehru's Discovery of India.

Other Programmes (English)

- **Special Guest:** A programme based on discussion with an expert on policies, economics and social issues.
- **Public Forum:** A live one-hour, studio-based discussion on a current topic or issue of public concern.
- **Healthy India:** A one-hour live programme on diet, nutrition and home remedies with phone-ins from the public and expert advice from specialists.
- **Roving Camera:** A weekly round-up of functions and events in and around Parliament House.
- **Talktime:** An hour-long, weekly discussion with two or more expert panelists on policy issues.
- **One-on-One:** An hour-long, weekly interview with a distinguished personality, either from the Government or Non-Government sectors.

- **Gender Discourse:** A live, one-hour-long, discussion-based show on gender issues with phone-ins from the public. The panel comprises two or more guests, including social scientists, legal experts and gender experts.
- **Public Domain:** A weekly programme based on public lectures and seminars featuring domain experts on various issues of common interest.
- **Pillars of Democracy:** A series on Lectures organized by the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST) on various topics relating to the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary.
- **A Page from History:** A programme which discusses very important events in history on their landmark anniversaries.
- **Know your MP:** A half-an-hour interview of Members of Parliament (Lok Sabha) on their political journey so far.

Other Programmes (Hindi & English)

- **Perspective:** A one-hour daily live show analyzing newspaper stories of the day with a guest panel of senior journalists, commentators and experts during non-Session periods.
- **Insight:** A one hour daily live programme analyzing a major issue or news story of the day with the help of expert panelists.
- **Insight Weekend:** A half-hour weekly 'field report' by an anchor taking the viewer through an issue, based on examples and inputs by those on the ground.
- **Career Cafe:** A programme for young people preparing for competitive exams and careers.

Programmes on Indian Culture

- **State of Culture:** A reportage and interview-based programme on trends in Indian culture and the cultural scene in the national capital.

- **In Transit:** An interview with a celebrity passing through the national capital.
- **Sur-Saptak:** A programme on classical Indian music tradition.

Films/Documentaries

- **Weekend Classic Film:** Award-winning films in Hindi and other Indian languages produced or supplied by the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) are showcased each weekend.
- **India Unlimited:** A series of documentaries on Indian culture and heritage produced by the Public Diplomacy Division, Ministry of External Affairs.
- **PSBT Films:** Documentary films provided by the Public Service Broadcasting Trust (PSBT) are shown on different time slots.
- **Fairs of India:** A documentary series that captures the specialities and flavours of fairs and festivals held in different parts of the country.

Reach of the Lok Sabha Television

Lok Sabha Television has a wide reach cutting across regions, age, gender, etc. Distributors have been appointed all over India at the regional level to ensure that the Lok Sabha Satellite Television Channel (LSTV) is carried by all Cable operators across the country. Amendments in the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 have been made, making it compulsory for each cable operator in the nation to carry LSTV on their cable network.

Lok Sabha Television as a Public Broadcaster

The Lok Sabha Television is not a revenue earning channel on the lines of private channels, but works on the principles of a public broadcaster so as to cater to the masses and to that section of the nation that is interested in the day to day working of Parliament, debates on social issues, discussions on international affairs, views of visiting dignitaries,

documentaries on culture, common man's issues, etc. In pursuance of these objectives, a very nominal fee is charged from private television networks who show interest to telecast/broadcast the proceedings live/recorded or to use the recorded excerpts/footage of parliamentary proceedings, by allowing them to use the feed on certain terms and conditions. However, Doordarshan is allowed to use all footage free of any charge.

Advisory Council for Lok Sabha Television

An Advisory Council has been constituted consisting of leaders or representatives of political parties having ten or more Members in the Lok Sabha. The Speaker is the Chairperson of the Advisory Council of Lok Sabha Television which aids and advises on programmes related matters. The Advisory Council indicates guidelines for programmes to be broadcast, considers new programming concepts; suggests ideas for the effective functioning of the Channel and discusses any other matter relating to the functioning of the Channel.

Organisational Structure of the LSTV Channel

The Lok Sabha Television functions under the overall supervision of a Chief Executive, Lok Sabha Television. The broad divisions of the Lok Sabha Television are:

- **Programming/Production Division:** The Division is responsible for producing and recording of programmes.
- **Marketing Division:** The Division is responsible for coordination with various Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) for generating revenue for Lok Sabha Television Channel and other marketing related activities.
- **Distribution Division:** The Division is responsible for distribution of LSTV signal through cable network throughout the country.
- **Technical Division:** The Division is responsible for transmission of LSTV signal and other technical matters relating to the Channel.

Lok Sabha Television Channel Unit

The Lok Sabha Satellite TV Channel Unit was created on 24 November, 2005 for dealing with various activities relating to further development, financing, management, promotion and other related aspects of the Channel. The Unit has been designated as the Nodal Branch for setting up and providing all support for running the Channel smoothly and successfully.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

MAY, 2014

LARRDIS/ No. 20/1/2014/PPR-26

**Cover Photo: The Production Control Room of LSTV
in Parliament House*