

Speech of His Excellency Shri K. Sankaranarayanan, the Governor of Jharkhand on the occasion of Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Doordarshan on 15th September, 2009.

Director Doordarshan, Officers, Artists and Staff of Doordarshan, Ladies & Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to be in your midst for the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Doordarshan, our national television service. Starting with experimental telecast confined to Delhi on 15th September, 1959, Doordarshan has grown to become one of the largest broadcasting organisations in the world in terms of coverage and the infrastructure of studios and transmitters.

Doordarshan introduced colour transmission during Asian Games, 1982. The year 1982 also witnessed the introduction of a regular satellite link between Delhi and other transmitters heralding the arrival of the National Network. The eighties was the era of Doordarshan as serials like Hum Log, Buniyaad, Bharat ek Khoj, Tamas, and mythological epics like Ramayan & Mahabharat glued millions to Doordarshan.

Doordarshan, today, operates 25 channels - five All India Channel, Eleven Regional Languages Satellite Channels, Eight Hindi Belt Network and one International Channel.

Doordarshan has a three-tier broadcasting structure - National, Regional and Local. Each has a typical broadcasting pattern keeping in view the objectives of the Public Service Broadcasting. Thus, in the true spirit of a Public Service Broadcaster, Doordarshan is ensuring inclusion of different regions & its people, varied languages, issues, subjects, needs & concerns in its programme transmission. And all this is done without compromising the national & cultural spirit of the country.

Doordarshan. Kendra, Ranchi that started its transmission from 14th November, 1984 in a limited way, nowadays telecasts programmes related to agriculture, rural development, environment, development schemes of the government etc. Special attention is given on highlighting & nourishing the rich tribal culture of this region. Most of the programmes are in tribal languages like Ho, Kharia, Mundari, Santhali & Oraon and also in Nagpuri, the lingua-franca of the region. The programmes of this Kendra are planned and produced with active participation of the people of the region, particularly with different tribal communities of the state.

I congratulate Doordarshan on the eventful & entertaining journey uptill now and hope that it shall continue to fulfil its role as Public Service Broadcaster celebrating our composite culture of unity in diversity.

Thank you,