

# **GUJARATI RADIO LISTENERS**

ESTABLISHED IN 1994

25<sup>th</sup> March 2004

BBC Charter Review Consultation  
Department for Culture, Media and Sport  
2-4 Cockspur Street  
London  
SW1Y 5DH

## **BBC ASIAN NETWORK WATERING DOWN GUJARATI LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES IN LEICESTER.**

**IT IS OF GRAVE CONCERN TO CULTURE OF LEICESTER  
AND LEICESTERSHIRE AND EAST MIDLANDS WITH A  
HIGHEST CONCENTRATION OF GUJARATI SPEAKING  
COMMUNITY IN BRITIAN.**

**THEY SENT PETITION OF OVER 2000 SIGNATURES  
REPRESENTING A CROSS-SECTION OF THE POPULATION.  
THIS WAS IGNORED BASICALLY BY THE BBC ASIAN  
NETWORK CO-ORDINATOR AND THE RELEVANT  
MANGEMENT.**

**THE PROGRAMME SCHEDULES HAVE BEEN SHUNTED  
AROUND THE WEEK TO INCONVENIENT TIMES OF  
LISTENERS AND THEIR PLEA HAS BEEN IGNORED.**

**AS A RESULT, THE PROGRAMME QUALITY HAS  
DETERIORATED AND THE ATTITUDE OF THE  
MANAGEMENT HAS BECOME STEREO TYPE AND THEY  
HAVE IGNORED THE PASSIONATE REQUESTS OF THE  
LISTENERS.**

**ITS HIGH TIME BBC ASIAN NETWORK STARTS LISTENING  
TO THE GUJARATI LISTENERS WHO ARE ALSO LEICENSE  
PAYERS OVER THE YEARS.**

## GUJARATI LISTENERS

Secretary: Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Modi.

**What do you value most about the BBC?** For example, is it the news, sports, arts or educational coverage? How well does it serve different nations, regions and communities throughout the United Kingdom? What subjects does it cover less well? **More information**

What do you value most about the BBC? We at the listeners club enjoy the language programmes in particular Gujarati diversity in Leicester. But lately over last two years the programme timing has been very poor and management is listening in spite of number of pleas.

**How should the BBC adapt to cope with changes in technology and culture?** For example, how should it take account of the rise in use of the internet or digital television? **More information**

needs as expressed as we are the core listeners which add to the diversity strengths of the BBC. Internet is wonderful but if the timing of programmes are bad it is only advantageous to abroad listeners not the local. Only help is the fact that we can communicate with you but the response by the management in Leicester is poor.

**What do you think of the television, radio and online services the BBC provides?** What changes, if any, would you like to see? **More information**

What do you think of the television, radio and online services the BBC provides? Our main interest at present is the changes needed as expressed in our initial notes at the beginning.

**Should the BBC run commercial services?** The BBC produces magazines like The Radio Times and DVDs of popular programmes like The Office. Its main commercial arm, BBC Worldwide, put £123m back into public services in 2002/03. Do you think the BBC should continue running commercial operations? **More information**

Should the BBC run commercial services?  
No, that only water down s the values to business responses  
not to the local values.

**Is the BBC organised in the most effective and efficient way?  
Is it managed and run to provide the very best services for the  
public? More information**

is w orrying know ing the very name of Asian Net w ork and its  
The programmes do not reflect the language diversity at local l  
and the quality of language used is not upto the standard. The  
Gujarati presents are very good but the Management doesnot  
seem to give the the due timeing as required by local program  
in particular Gujarati presents.

**How should the BBC be governed and regulated? The BBC's  
Governors currently have a dual role. First, overseeing how the  
BBC is run internally. Secondly, regulating it on behalf of the public  
interest - for example, making sure it meets standards on  
accuracy, impartiality and fair trading. Is this the best approach?  
More information**

How should the BBC be governed and regulated?  
The Governors should also respond to the local diversity and  
representation should show language diversity and sensitivity  
culture and languages in particular Gujarati.

**How do we ensure that the BBC is properly accountable to the  
public and Parliament? Should the public have a greater say and  
influence on the BBC? If so, how? More information**

How do we ensure that the BBC is properly accountable to the  
public and Parliament?  
Please ensure the local diversity of languages on Programming  
Leicester particulary Gujarati.

**Got more to say? Tell us anything else you think about the BBC**

Got more to say?  
Please do not show Islamic bias in choosng of presents and r  
it more responsive to local language needs. Gujarati is not bee  
give its due because of bad management of programming and  
sentsitivity neglect.

**Publish my response on the BBC Charter Review Website**

Yes

LINCOLNSHIRE SOUTH  
FEDERATION OF  
WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Registered Charity No: 506268

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2-4 Cockspur Street  
London  
SW1 5DH

29<sup>th</sup> March 2004

BBC CHARTER REVIEW :CIRCULATION OF SUMMARY LEAFLET

Dear Sir/ Madam ,

Please find enclosed the response to the questions that were asked in the YOUR BBC  
YOUR SAY LEAFLET ,which we received from Caroline Deihl Chief Executive,  
Media Trust

The response to the questions asked were obtained from a cross section of members of all  
ages

Yours Sincerely

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## BBC Charter Review Public Consultation -

### Review of the BBC

After consultation with members of Lincolnshire South Federation of WI's, the following answers were obtained to the questions that were asked in the YOUR BBC YOUR SAY leaflet.

1. News- Local- Sports not so good ,none existent at times. Too much dumbing down right across the board. Appearance in dress a prime example .
2. Must remember not everyone is on the internet. This again is cutting out the older section of the population. Aimed at the young end all the time . This another example of dumbing down. Should accelerate the move from terrestrial analogue to terrestrial digital. Making sure 100% can receive it. This will then allow interaction between viewer and the BBC.
3. Quite good.
4. Yes.
5. The Licence Fee should be abolished because it is backed up by law, which should have been decriminalized . The only viable alternative is through advertising but not run as it is on all other commercial channels. IE where it interrupts programmes ,as in motor racing . Adverts should be scheduled so that a whole programme can be split in to segments -where adverts don't arise every 10 mins. The BBC IS ALREADY DOING THIS by its adverts for its own programmes in between scheduled programmes.
6. We as your public haven't got the faintest idea of how the organization is set up. So we would like to know . It seems that at the moment there are too many chiefs and not enough Indians.
7. The way it is run at the moment seems to be alright. Whilst it appears the buck has to stop somewhere /the responsibility has to be delegated.. The BBC should not be accountable to parliament ,they should be free of political interference . If parliament wants to have its say it should have its own dedicated channel .BBC Zero
8. A small number of places on the BBC Board should be open for members of the public to apply to fill without political interference .IE no political affiliations.