

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:227

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2000

APPROVAL TO SET UP DOORDARSHAN RELAY CENTRES

BHAL CHANDRA YADAV;THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT

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

- (a) the number of places for which approval for setting up of Doordarshan Relay Centres was given during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 alongwith expenditure involved therein, State-wise;
- (b) the policy of the Government in regard to the setting up of Relay Centres in the country;
- (c) the time by which the said approved Doordarshan Relay Centres are likely to be set up and start functioning;
- (d) whether the Government are formulating any special action plan to make Doordarshan telecast available in each part of the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT
(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOKSABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.227 FOR ANSWER ON 10.03.2000

(a): A total of 274 Doordarshan Relay Centres (HPT-68, LPT/ VLPT-206) have been approved during April, 1997 to February, 2000 at an approved cost of about Rs.605 crores. A statement showing State-wise details is at Annexure.

(b): Expansion of TV service in the country is carried out in a phased manner depending on availability of resources. However, the following key factors are taken into account while deciding location for setting up of a transmitter:

1. The existing coverage in the area
2. Extent of resultant coverage from the proposed transmitter
3. Cultural, historical and economic importance of the area
4. Backwardness/remoteness of the area.

Priority is given to Tribal/ Hilly and sensitive/border areas for setting up of TV transmitters.

(c): Out of 274 transmitters, 41 projects have already been commissioned and another 29 projects are technically ready. The technically ready projects would be commissioned as soon as requisite staff for operation and maintenance are in position by redeployment, which has been finalized recently and is in the process of implementation. The remaining projects are at various stages of implementation and are likely to be commissioned in phases by the end of 9th Plan.

(d)&(e): Doordarshan's national terrestrial channel provides a coverage to 87.9% of population and 74.8% of area. Its satellite channels, 16 in numbers, provide 100% coverage and are available in all parts of the country through appropriate dish antenna or cable connection. However, with a view to further expand the terrestrial TV service in the hitherto uncovered areas, 312 transmitter projects are presently under implementation in different States/UTs. With the commissioning of these projects and those which are technically ready, Doordarshan coverage in the country will improve significantly.

In addition to the above projects under implementation, a special plan for expansion of Doordarshan services in J&K has been approved by Cabinet involving an outlay of Rs.218 crores. Under this plan, 13 HPTs, 12 Mobile LPTs and 16 VLPT are being set up besides upgradation of one HPT (Amrisar DD1) and 11 VLPTs.