

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:883

ANSWERED ON:22.11.2001

DOORDARSHAN/AIR PROJECTS

BAHADUR SINGH KOLI;GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAV;H.G. RAMULU;P.R. KHUTE;PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY;RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE;T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI;TRILOCHAN KANUNGO;VIRENDRA KUMAR

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

- (a) the details of Doordarshan/AIR projects running/pending in the country, state-wise and location-wise;
- (b) the estimated cost of each project;
- (c) the details of places having no Doordarshan/AIR Kendra/broadcasting facilities till date;
- (d) the reasons therefor and the steps taken to open more Doordarshan/AIRkendras/broadcasting facilities in the country, including their estimated cost location- wise/state-wise;
- (e) the time by which the pending projects are likely to be completed and new kendras broadcasting facilities likely to be opened;
- (f) the steps taken to increase the coverage of AIR/Doordarshan and modernise the existing kendras;
- (g) whether any special package for increasing the coverage of Doordarshan/AIR inNorth-Eastern States has been given by the Government; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) & (b): The State-wise details of AIR projects presently under implementation alongwith their estimated cost is given in ANNEXURE-I. The State-wise details of Doordarshan projects presently under implementation is given in ANNEXURE-II.

(c) & (d): Location of Radio Stations / Doordarshan Kendras / Transmitters are not planned city-wise/town-wise, but are planned with a view to provide maximum coverage in hitherto uncovered areas. Plans for expansion of AIR/DDn. network in the country are formulated after taking into account existing coverage and infrastructural facilities at a given place, extent of resultant coverage, inter-se priorities, availability of financial resources, etc.. Though Doordarshan signals are available throughout the country in satellite mode, terrestrial coverage of Doordarshan is presently estimated to be available to 89.1% population and 76.6% area of the country. All India Radioprogrammes are presently estimated to be available to approximately 98.82% population and 89.51% area of the country. State-wise coverage figures for AIR/DDn. are given at ANNEXURE-III.

(e): As the projects have been sanctioned at various time stages, the projects are at different stages of implementation and are expected to be completed, in phases, during the next two years.

(f): Expansion / Modernisation of existing AIR/Doordarshan Network is a continuous process and schemes in this regard are formulated and implemented from time to time depending on availability of resources. For expansion of AIR and DDn. coverage, 63 AIR projects and 227 TV Transmitter projects are presently under implementation.

(g) & (h): The Government has approved, in principle, the implementation of a special package of schemes for improvement of Doordarshan and AIR services in the North-East Region (including Sikkim). The package will be implemented in the 10th Five Year Plan, and advance action will start during the current financial year.