

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2354

ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009

SILIGURI AIR STATION

Majumdar Shri Prasanta Kumar; Roy Shri Nripendra Nath

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the Siliguri All India Radio (AIR) Station is not self sufficient for relaying the programmes;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to upgrade the said station;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to increase the time slot for the North Bengal Local Sanskriti Programmes;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN)

(a) AIR Siliguri is a full-fledged station with 200 kW Medium Wave Transmitter (primary channel), Studio production facilities, Satellite Receive facilities and 10 kW FM Transmitter for Vividh Bharati programmes relay.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) & (d) Yes Sir, in the draft 11th Plan, the replacement of the existing studio equipments and MW transmitter by new Digital technology equipment have been proposed. This scheme under Draft 11th Plan scheme is yet to be approved.

(e) There is no exclusive chunk earmarked for broadcast of North Bengal Sanskriti Programme

(f) & (g) Does not arise.