

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:393

ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011

DIGITALIZATION OF TRANSMITTERS AND STUDIOS

Shantha J.

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

- (a) whether the Government has proposed to initiate a scheme for Digitalisation of Transmitters and Studios in Doordarshan/All India Radio network in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on the said scheme;
- (d) the funds allocated for the purpose during the current five year plan; and
- (e) the time by which said scheme is likely to be completed?

Answer

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

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) The scheme for Digitalization of AIR network was approved under 11th Plan. The salient features of the scheme are:

- i. Replacement/ Digitalization of 70 Medium Wave Transmitters.
- ii. Replacement of 34 old FM transmitters
- iii. Setting up of 130 new digital compatible FM transmitters.
- iv. Digitalization of 9 SW transmitters.
- v. Digitalization of 98 Studio Centres.
- vi. Digitalization of 44 nos. of RNUs and opening of new RNUs at 7 places.
- vii. Digitalization of News-on-Phone services at 29 places.
- viii. Digitalization of all Connectivity between Studio centre and Transmitters (STL, RNT, CES)

An amount of Rs. 934.2 Cr had been allocated for digitalization of AIR setups during the current five year plan against which schemes amounting to Rs. 908.12 Cr. have been sanctioned.

Doordarshan's Eleventh Plan scheme entitled "Digitalization of Transmitters and Studios in DD Network", which interalia includes the projects of establishment of 40 digital Transmitters & full digitalization of 39 Studios was approved by the Government in April, 2010 at a cost of Rs. 620 crore.

Allocation of funds under Annual Plans 2010-11 and 2011-12 for the above scheme is Rs. 35 crore and Rs. 93.36 crore, respectively.

(e) The digitalization projects of AIR, as approved under the present scheme, are expected to be completed by March 2013. As per present indications, Doordarshan's scheme of Digitalization is expected to be completed, in phases, in about three years time.