

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:480
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011
TV TOWERS IN BORDER AREAS
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab

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

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints from the people of the border areas/army personnel that they are compelled to watch anti-India propaganda being telecast through T.V channels operated by the neighbouring countries including Pakistan due to non-availability of low capacity television towers in such areas;
- (b) if so, the number of such complaints received by the Government in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has received requests from border States to increase the capacity of the existing low capacity T.V towers covering the border areas including Rajasthan;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING(SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 480 FOR ANSWER ON 06.09.2011

Prasar Bharati has informed that, complaints about unsatisfactory TV coverage in hilly border areas are occasionally received. However, no centralized data in this regard is maintained. No complaints from army personnel in the border areas have been received in the recent past.

Doordarshan has been assigning priority to strengthening of TV coverage in Border areas in its expansion plans formulated from time to time. Special packages for expansion and improvement of Doordarshan services in NE states and J&K have also been implemented. 273 TV transmitters of varying power are presently functioning in the border districts.

Requests for the expansion of DD coverage in Border areas have been received from time to time, from various quarters. Following requests have been received during the last three years.

- i. Upgradation of VLPTs at Nongstoin and Baghmara (Meghalaya) to HPTs.
- ii. Upgradation of LPT at Tuensang and VLPT at Mon (Nagaland) to HPTs
- iii. Strengthening of Doordarshan coverage in border areas of Rajasthan.
- iv. Establishment of new TV transmitters at Khunana & Jarmola Dhar in Uttarakhand.
- v. Establishment of new TV transmitters at Tamlu town in Nagaland.

All the areas uncovered by terrestrial transmitters (including border areas), alongwith the rest of the country have been provided with multichannel TV coverage through Doordarshan free-to-air DTH service "DD Direct Plus" signals of which can be received anywhere in the country with the help of small sized dish receive units.

For further expansion of Radio & TV terrestrial coverage in J&K, a scheme involving an outlay of Rs 100.00 crore has been approved in the 11th Five Year Plan. This scheme inter-alia includes projects of establishment of five High Power TV Transmitters in J&K (Kashmir region-1; Jammu region-1; Ladakh region-1 besides 2 HPTs at Rajouri).