GOVERNMENT OF INDIA INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3040 ANSWERED ON:24.04.2012 RECEPTION OF DD PROGRAMME Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash

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

- (a) whether the reception of quality programmes telecast on Doordarshan and broadcast on radio is unsatisfactory in various parts of the country including in the rural and border areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to increase the number of transmitters in the said areas during the XII Five Year Plan;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor and the remedial measures taken/being taken by the Government to improve the quality of programmes?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan telecasts programmes in satellite and terrestrial mode. Quality of Doordarshan transmissions in both the modes is satisfactory.

At present, there are 1415 TV transmitters in Doordarshan network, which provide coverage to about 92% population of the country and about 81% area. All the areas uncovered with terrestrial transmitters, along with rest of the country have been provided multi channel TV coverage through Doordarshan's free-to-air DTH service.

In XII Five Year Plan, Doordarshan has proposed establishment of some transmitters in border areas only for further strengthening of TV coverage. State-wise locations of these transmitters are given in the Annexure. However this is subject to approval by the Government. Regarding AIR, the reception quality of the AIR programmes is found satisfactory. Radio Audience Survey conducted during the year 2010-11 reveals channel wise opinion on reception quality of AIR programmes by the respondents from all the six zones across the country covering both the rural & urban areas was found satisfactory.

In Primary Channel, majority of the respondents (63.4%) opined reception quality as satisfactory. Whereas in Vividh Bharati Channel more than half of the respondents (50.3%) opined reception quality satisfactory. As far as FM channel is concerned more than half of the respondents (56.1%) opined satisfactory quality. Similar situation was found in the rural and border areas.

In order to augment the coverage, the scheme for setting up of 305 new MW/FM Transmitters of various capacities in the country has already been approved under 11th Plan and is under implementation.

Proposal for setting up of new FM Transmitters of various capacities at 385 new places has also been made in the 12th Plan, however, the allocation of funds and approval by Planning Commission is awaited.

(e) Doordarshan has taken up the digitalization of production and transmission facilities for further enhancement of technical qualities of programmes.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part 'a' to'd' of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3040 for answer on 24.04.2012

New transmitters proposed in XII Five Year Plan

State Proposed location Capacity

Bihar Forbesganj HPI

Raxaul HPT Jaynagar HPT

Uttar Pradesh Nishangara HPT Bankatwa HPT Naugarh (Siddarth Nagar) HPT

Uttarakhand Pithoragarh HPT Tanakpur HPT

Rajasthan Karanpur HPT Khajuwala HPT Daw HPT Bharewala HPT Jeniyo HPT Kishangarh HPT

Gujarat Tharad HPT Koteshwar HPT

Arunachal Pradesh Tawang HPT
Seppa HPT
Bomdilla HPT
Daprijo HPT
Koloriang (Kurung Kumey) HPT
Along HPT
Yingkiong HPT
Anini HPT
Hawai HPT
Changlang LPT
Khosa LPT
Ziro LPT

Mizoram Champhai HPT

Manipur Moreh HPT

Tripura Rabiraipara LPT Belonia HPT

Assam Karimganj HPT

HPT: High Power Transmitter, LPT: Low Power Transmitter

Note: Locations and capacity of some of the transmitters may change due to technical considerations.