

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5123
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012
EQUIPMENT OF DD AIR
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

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

- (a) whether the equipment installed in Doordarshan Kendras/AIR stations have become outdated;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to replace them with modern equipment;
- (d) if so, the achievements made so far; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to devolve financial powers to the Prasar Bharati?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that modernization of All India Radio Stations and Doordarshan Kendras which includes induction of new technologies, replacement of old ageing equipment and augmentation/upgradation of facilities is a continuous process and schemes in this regard are formulated and implemented from time to time.

Out of 67 Doordarshan Kendras (Studio Centres) in Doordarshan's network, 23 Studio Centres are fully digital and 31 Studio Centres are partially digital. Projects of full digitalization of 40 Studio Centres are under implementation as part of 11th Plan. As part of 11th Plan there are also projects of modernization of 20 Doordarshan Kendras by providing additional equipment which are also under implementation.

Regarding All India Radio, presently 432 Transmitters (148 MW + 236 FM + 48 SW) and 216 Studios are functional in the country. Out of this, 79 Transmitters (40 MW + 34FM + 5 SW) and 98 Studio equipment had become outdated earlier and the scheme for replacing these old equipment by latest state of art technology was approved under 11th Plan which is under implementation and likely to be completed by 2013.

Apart from this as on date 150 more Transmitters (37 MW + 75 FM + 38 SW) and 116 more Studio equipment have become outdated. These Transmitters and equipments have served their prescribed life period and are due for replacement. The scheme for replacement of these old equipment by latest state of art modern equipment has been proposed in the 12th Plan.

(e) Financial powers has been delegated to Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) to sanction expenditure of less than Rs.300.00 crore in respect of Indents, contracts and Purchases.