

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:547

ANSWERED ON:15.05.2012

ANTI-INDIA PROPAGANDA

Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Ramasubbu Shri S.

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

- (a) whether anti-India propaganda is being aired through radio/television by certain neighbouring countries across the border areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has received any reports/complaints that the programmes telecast/broadcast from neighbouring countries have better receptivity in the said areas in comparison to the programmes of All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan (DD);
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated for the upgradation of DD/AIR networks in the border areas; and
- (e) the concrete steps/action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to tackle such propaganda?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 547 FOR ANSWER ON 15.05.2012

(a) to (e): Prasar Bharati has informed that anti-India propaganda is received in the State of Jammu & Kashmir from across the border. Doordarshan has been assigning priority to expansion of TV coverage in border areas of the country, through various expansion plans formulated from time to time. Special packages for expansion and improvement of Doordarshan services in Jammu and Kashmir and North Eastern states have also been implemented. At present, 273 TV transmitters, of varying power, are functioning in the border districts.

All the areas uncovered by terrestrial transmitters (including border areas) have been provided with multi-channel TV and Radio coverage through Doordarshan's free- to- air DTH service called DD Direct Plus, signals of which can be received in other parts of the country with the help of small sized dish receiver system. TV signals from across the border are received in some areas while Doordarshan signals are readily available in these areas, and their quality is comparable to the foreign signals. A few complaints about unsatisfactory TV coverage in some specific border areas are also received occasionally. However, no complaint about better reception of TV signals from neighboring countries, as compared to Doordarshan signals, have been received in the recent past.

Programmes from Radio Stations of neighbouring countries are heard in India as well. In addition, there are some programmes from neighbouring countries as a part of their external services received in India.

Strengthening of the coverage of All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan (DD) networks along border areas is an ongoing process. Proposals for setting up of new High Power and Low Power AIR and DD transmitters and FM transmitters in the border areas are considered and approved by the Government as per the requirement and funds availability, from time to time. The North-East Special Package Phase-II, the Jammu and Kashmir Special Package Phase-II and Jammu and Kashmir Special Package Phase-III have been approved in May 2006, September 2007 and August 2010 respectively, for the expansion of All India Radio and Doordarshan services along border areas. The details of the various schemes approved under the 11th Plan for the improvement of AIR terrestrial coverage along the border areas along with the fund allocation are as follows: -

S.No.	Name of the Schemes under implementation in 11th Plan	Amount allocated under 11th Plan period
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(Rs. Crore)

i. North East Special Package Phase-II 132.52 (AIR)

ii. New FM transmitters in the Border 51.19 (AIR)

Areas under continuing scheme of
11th Plan

iii. Upgradation of MW transmitter in 29.93 (AIR)
Arunachal Pradesh (New scheme in
11th Plan)

iv. New FM transmitters in the Border 21.74 (AIR)
Areas (New scheme in 11th Plan)

v. J&K Special Package (Phase-III) 100.00 (AIR & DD)