

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7569
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012
ACHIEVEMENTS OF DD AIR
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Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the target fixed with regard to the number of villages and hamlets proposed to be covered by the services of Doordarshan and Akashwani under the XIth Five Year Plan;
- (b) the number of TV/Radio towers proposed to be set up during the said period;
- (c) the details of the targets set and achievements made by the Government/Prasar Bharati(PB) with regard to various projects of Doordarshan, All India Radio (AIR) and other networks during each of the last three years and the current year, project-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has reviewed the financial targets and the physical/actual achievements made by the PB on the said projects;
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for slow pace of progress; and
- (f) the efforts being made to achieve the targets set?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that the present AIR coverage is 91.87% by area and 99.19% by population in MW and 29.18% by area and 41.43% by population in FM mode. FM transmitters of various capacities are being installed by AIR at 224 more places throughout the country. After implementation of the schemes, AIR coverage in FM mode is likely to be increased to 38.75% by area and 53.53% by population of the country including those living in villages and hamlets.

In the 12th Plan, AIR proposed to setup 385 nos. of new FM transmitters in the country to increase the FM coverage to 90% by population including people living in villages and hamlets, subject to allocation of funds and approval by Planning Commission.

As regards DD, at present, 1415 Transmitters are functioning in the country providing coverage to about 92% of the population spread over about 81% of it's area. All the areas uncovered by terrestrial transmitters, along with rest of the country, have been provided with multi channel TV coverage through Doordarshan's free-to-air DTH service "DD Direct Plus". New transmitters (except a few in border areas) for expansion of terrestrial coverage are, now, not envisaged.

(c) The details of targets set and achievements made by Prasar Bharati (PB) with regard to various projects of All India Radio(AIR) and Doordarshan during each of the last three years and the current year, are given in Annexure-I & II respectively.

(d) & (e) Review of physical and financial progress is a continuous process and following actions were taken from time to time.

Half yearly performance report is submitted to Ministry by Prasar Bharati.

Monthly report is submitted to Ministry by Prasar Bharati on all the schemes approved by Cabinet.

Ministry monitors the plan expenditure on weekly basis.

However, following were the main reasons for delay in the completion of setting of new Transmitters under the Continuing Schemes:

- i. Delay in offering of suitable sites by the State Govt.
- ii. Delay in completion of Building works at few places due to local problems and difficult local & other conditions.
- iii. Due to delay in procurement of equipment.
- iv. Procedural delay in sanction of new schemes of 11th Plan.

(f) Following steps have been taken by Prasar Bharati to complete the scheme within the stipulated time :

A Nine Member Committee has been created under the chairmanship of CEO which comprises of Member(Finance), Member(Personnel) and DGs, DGs (News), and E-in -Cs of both DD and AIR for dealing with important issues of the Corporation including monitoring of progress in implementation of various schemes and projects.

A Project monitoring committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of DG: AIR/DG:DD to strengthen the monitoring mechanism for AIR/DD projects.

Nodal Officers have been nominated for the schemes included in Result Framework Document.

The sanctioning power of DG has been restored to Rs. 20 crore.

Time Schedule for procurement and all other major activities of a project has been drawn and the progress is being monitored.

Power to purchase equipment/stores of less than Rs. 300 Cr. has been delegated to Prasar Bharati.