

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1370

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013

BROADCASTING COVERAGE OF DD AIR PROGRAMMES

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

- (a) the total number of Doordarshan (DD) and radio stations functioning in the country along with the modernisation and upgradation works carried out in these stations so far, State/UT and DD/radio station-wise;
- (b) the details of the steps taken by the Government for expansion of the broadcasting coverage of DD and All India Radio (AIR) programmes in the country including backward, rural and inaccessible areas, State-wise;
- (c) whether some TV and radio stations in the country have not been made functional for the last few years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the total expenditure incurred on such stations; and
- (e) the time by which such TV and radio stations are likely to be made fully functional, State/UT-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI)

(a) & (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that at present, there are 67 Doordarshan Studio centres and 1415 TV transmitters of varying power functioning in the country. Modernization of Doordarshan & AIR stations is a continuous process and schemes in this regard are formulated and implemented from time to time. The details of major upgradation/modernization works carried out at various Doordarshan stations during the last three years and the current year are given at Annexure-I.

There are 366 nos. of All India Radio stations functioning in the country. The station-wise details of the modernization & up-gradation work undertaken is given in Annexure-II. These schemes were approved during 11th Plan.

Doordarshan network provide coverage to about 92% population of the country, including a large segment of population in backward, rural and inaccessible areas. All the areas uncovered by terrestrial transmission (as well as the country as a whole) have been provided with multi channel TV coverage through Doordarshan's free-to-air DTH service. New transmitters for expansion of terrestrial coverage are now not envisaged, except a few in border areas. As part of continuing schemes from 11th Plan, the following transmitter projects have been taken up in border & rural areas:

J&K

1. HPT, Green Ridge (Uri)

2. HPT, Himbotingla (Kargil)

3. HPT Natha Top

4. HPTs Rajouri (DD1 & DD NEWS)

A&N Islands

VLPT, Joginder Nagar.

AIR, terrestrial coverage provided through 536 AM/ FM radio transmitters is 91.90 % area and 99.20 % population of the country. Following steps have been taken up for expansion of broadcasting coverage of All India Radio (AIR) programmes in the country, including backward, rural and inaccessible areas :

1. The power of 12 existing transmitters of AIR is being upgraded and installation of 166 additional MW/ FM Transmitters of various capacities has been taken up throughout the country. The State-wise details are given in Annexure-III.
2. 21 radio channels (Programmes) of AIR are made available through DD Direct plus DTH platform (Ku-band) and these programmes can be received through a set top box in all over the country except Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
3. Scheme for further up-gradation of 58 existing FM/MW transmitters and 157 new FM Transmitters are part of 12th Plan proposals.

(c) to (e) All technically ready Doordarshan stations have been made operational. Presently, 9 new technically ready AIR Stations are awaiting sanction of Operation & Maintenance staff. The location-wise details along with the total expenditure incurred on such stations is given at Annexure-IV.

Government have recently allowed filling up of 1150 posts in Prasar Bharati despite austerity orders to meet critical organizational needs. Redeployment of staff from other AIR stations/employing retired staff is also done to the extent feasible.