

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:113

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2013

SETTING UP OF AIR STATIONS

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

- (a) whether the Union Government had taken a decision to setup All India Radio Stations at all the border district head-quarters of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether All India Radio Stations have been set up at all the district head quarters of Bihar bordering Nepal;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Union Government to setup the said stations at all such district headquarters ?

Answer

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

(a) No sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Prasar Bharati has informed that All India Radio Stations (100 W FM Transmitter) have already been set up at district headquarters of 06 districts (Betiah, Kishanganj, Madhubani, Motihari, Sitamarhi, Supaul) out of 07 districts in Bihar that are bordering with Nepal. However in one district (Araria) AIR station has been setup at Forbesganj instead of its district headquarter which is Araria.

The area bordering Nepal and its adjacent areas in Bihar are already getting the AIR programmes broadcast through 100 KW MW transmitter installed at All India Radio, Patna and 20 KW MW transmitter at AIR Darbhanga. Apart from this, 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 all over the country including this area.

Strengthening of communication infrastructure across the country including Bihar is a dynamic and continuous phenomena keeping in view the financial constraints.