

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:726  
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2015  
DIGITIZATION OF FILM ARCHIVES  
Arunmozhihevan Shri A.

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering for expanding FM channels and completing digitization of TV Channels;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has any plan for digitization of film archives for skill development of the media and entertainment sector and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
(COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.))

(a) &(b): Prasar Bharati has informed that as regards All India Radio, there are 397 FM transmitters under operation at present and 243 new FM transmitters have been approved under XII Plan. In addition to this government expanded FM Channels in the country with Private FM Radio Phase I in 1999 and Private FM Radio Phase II in 2005. At present 243 Private FM Radio Channels are working in the country. The government has approved Private FM Radio Phase III in 2011 to expand Private FM Radio channel to cities having population more than 1 lakh and in border/Island/NE areas irrespective of population criterion. The government has further decided to auction 135 channels in 69 existing cities as first batch of FM Phase III.

Doordarshan is presently operating 33 Satellite TV channels and transmission of all the above channels is in digital mode. Direct to Home (DTH) transmission is also in digital mode.

Government has taken decision for digitization of the cable TV Network in the Country under which all urban areas of the country are proposed to be digitized by Dec 2015 and the rest of the country by Dec 2016.

(C) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has approved a new Plan scheme viz. National Film Heritage Mission (NFHM) to restore, digitize and archive films and filmic material through National Film Archive of India, Pune.