

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:511

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2014

MODERNISATION UPGRADATION OF AIR DD STATIONS

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

- (a) whether AIR/ DD stations are regularly being modernised/ upgraded at par with international standards;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including modernisation/ upgradation work carried out in the production of broadcast / telecast of programmes of All India Radio and the Doordarshan;
- (c) the funds allocated / utilised for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the benefits accrued as a result of modernisation/ upgradation of AIR/ DD Stations?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.511 - FOR ANSWER ON 13.08.2014.

Prasar Bharati has informed that modernization/ upgradation is a continuous process both in All India Radio and Doordarshan.

As regards All India Radio, some of the major schemes of Modernization/upgradation works carried out/being carried out are as follows:-

- i) Digitalization of Studios and Regional News Units (RNU)
- ii) Digitization of RNUs
- iii) Upgradation/Replacement of FM Transmitters by FM Transmitters
- iv) Digitization of existing Studio to Transmitter Links (STLs)
- v) Provision of Radio Networking Terminal (RNT)

The full details of above schemes and other projects included in the Modernization/ upgradation works are given in Annexure-I.

In addition to this, under 12th Plan of All India Radio, AIR has plan for modernisation /upgradation of AIR network .Details of the schemes are given in Annexure-II.

As regards Doordarshan , schemes for modernization/ upgradation of its facilities are carried out from time to time as part of its Plan schemes. As part of 11th Plan , the following schemes of Modernization/ Upgradation of Studios, Transmitters & Satellite Broadcast equipment are under implementation:

- (i) Digitization of terrestrial transmitters adopting international acclaimed DVB-T2 & T2 lite technology;
- (ii) Digitization of studio in Doordarshan Network;
- (iii) Modernization, augmentation and replacement of transmitter & studio equipment in Doordarshan Network
- iv) Digitization of Archives;

The details of the above schemes are given in Annexure-III.

The Funds allocated and utilized by AIR and Doordarshan for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year are as under:

AIR:

Year	Funds allocated (Rs. in Cr.)	funds utilised (Rs. in Cr.)
2011-12	260.37	178.01
2012-13	299.00	167.32
2013-14	256.50	184.41
2014-15	227.01	55.35 (upto June'2014))

Doordarshan:

Year	Funds allocated (Rs. in Cr.)	funds utilised (Rs. in Cr.)
2011-12	149.40	95.89
2012-13	145.79	169.52
2013-14	129.00	159.81
2014-15	191.00	36.57
(upto June -2014)		

The benefits accrued as a result of modernization/upgradation of All India Radio(AIR) stations are as under:

- i. Emphasis on FM-ization i.e. expansion of FM Transmission, to ensure superior stereophonic sound, to ensure that old Medium Wave programmes are also available on FM mode, to become available for wider reception, even over hand held mobile sets;
- ii. Accessibility of AIR popular channels on Internet;
- iii. Availability of News on mobile phones through Apps;
- iv. Availability of AIR's 21 channels on DTH Platform throughout the country.

So far as Doordarshan is concerned, Digitization would enhance the Programme carrying capacity ten times and T2 lite technology would facilitate TV reception on enabled mobile phones. HDTV would provide high resolution content and presently HDTV is defacto standard in high quality programme production throughout the world.

Adoption of latest technology in satellite broadcast would increase programme carrying capacity besides providing robust signal to the viewers. Digitization of studio would enhance programme production capacity and quality. It would enable moving to tapeless environment in studios.