

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4313
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2005
EXPANSION OF TELEVISION AND RADIO COVERAGE .
Ramadass Prof. M

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

- (a) the initiatives taken by the Government to meet the increased requirements of human resources in the entertainment sector through the creation of new institutions;
- (b) the progress made in setting up of low power community radio stations in FM Mode by local communities and other organizations; and
- (c) the concrete measures taken in expanding the coverage of Television and Radio services to the unserved areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

- (a) There is no proposal to create new institutions. However, the Ministry has been taking appropriate steps to organise various courses in the existing institutions to meet the increased human resource requirements.
- (b) 68 applications have been received from different educational institutions till date, seeking license for setting up of community radio stations in FM mode. Letters of intent have been issued to 30 institutions. Of these, 20 institutions have signed license agreement and 7 of them are in various stages of being operational.
- (c) : Doordarshan have launched Ku-band (free to air DTH) service and its bouquet consisting of 33 TV and 12 Radio channels can be received throughout the country (except A&N Islands) with the help of a small sized dish receive unit.

As regards All India Radio, 99.13% of population is covered by the primary grade signal of AIR and after completion of 10th Plan schemes, 99.49% of population is expected to be covered by radio signals. During the 10th Plan, 25 new radio stations are proposed to be set up. In addition, 200 KW MW transmitter at Najibabad (replacement of 100 KW MW Transmitter), Agartala 10 KW FM Transmitter (Additional Channel) and Tuinsang 5 KW FM Transmitter (Replacement of 1 KW MW Transmitter (Additional Channel) will provide signal to uncovered areas.

100 Low Power FM Transmitters in North East region and another 50 in other areas are also proposed to be set up during 10th Plan.

The above schemes will be implemented subject to approval and availability of the funds.

Three radio stations at Nyoma, Diskit and Padam are technically ready.