

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:324
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2005
AIR AND DOORDARSHAN COVERAGE
Bhakta Shri Manoranjan

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

- (a) the percentage of All India Radio (AIR) & Doordarshan coverage in Andaman & Nicobar Islands;
- (b) whether the percentage of coverage in Andaman & Nicobar Islands is much less as compared to other parts of the country;
- (c) if so, whether there is any proposal for expansion of coverage in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands in the near future;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. DASMUNSI)

(a) to (e) : It has been informed by Prasar Bharati that while AIR covers the whole of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Doordarshan's coverage, in its terrestrial mode, is estimated to be available to about 97% of the population of the Islands.

As part of the expansion of radio services, a 10 kW FM AIR transmitter at Port Blair has been commissioned recently.

Besides, under the North-East Special Package (Phase II) scheme, which is yet to be approved, a proposal for installation of a 10 kW MW Sixteen number of Very Low Power Transmitters (VLPTs.) of Doordarshan are proposed to be installed in addition to the upgradation of six numbers of VLPTs. in A&N Islands. The North-East Special Package also contemplates upgradation of the existing LPTs. of Doordarshan in Port Blair and Car Nicobar into HPTs.