

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3560
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2006
AIR AND DOORDARSHAN REPORTERS
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

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

- (a) whether various useful news-items do not get coverage due to non-availability of All India Radio and Doordarshan reporters at the Divisional/District Centres;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is contemplating to deploy AIR and DD reporters at the District Centres;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Press Information Centres have not been provided by the Government at District and Divisional Centres; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : All India Radio and Doordarshan try to cover all important news events across the country with its limited manpower and support. Some events in far off places which are not covered due to infrastructure and manpower shortages are covered by subscribing to news agencies.

(c) & (d) : Prasar Bharati Board has approved the proposal to position Part Time Correspondents (PTC) in all those districts of the country where regular AIR Correspondents are not posted. At present, there are about 90 full time correspondents/editors and 419 PTCs posted/positioned across the country. The process of selection of PTCs in respect of remaining 150 district headquarters is underway. With this, Prasar Bharati will have correspondents in all the district headquarters of the country. Doordarshan News has a network of Stringers who, alongwith the PTCs of AIR, provides news inputs from various districts in the country. Besides, Doordarshan regular TV Correspondents/News Reports are also deployed to gather important news from time to time for inclusion in the news bulletins telecast by Doordarshan.

(e) & (f) : At present Press Information Bureau has 44 Registered/Branch office including Press Information Bureau Head Quarter. There are 7 Information Centres at New Delhi, Srinagar, Jalandhar, Port Blair, Kohima, Imphal and Aizwal. There is no proposal to open any new office at present.