

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 714  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2018)**

**AIR COVERAGE AT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

**714. SHRI SURESH GOPI:**

**Will the MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:**

- (a) the area and population covered by Thiruvananthapuram station of All India Radio at present;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the medium wave transmitter at Thiruvananthapuram has become very old and is unable to cover the required geographical area; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Government to install high wave transmitter and other latest gadgets in all AIR and Doordarshan stations for better broadcast and telecast in the State of Kerala?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY  
OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
{COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE(Retd.)}**

- (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that the area and population covered by 20 kW Medium Wave (MW) transmitter at All India Radio (AIR), Thiruvananthapuram is about 4400 sq. km and about 53 lacs respectively while 10 kW FM transmitter covers about 2640 sq. km area and about 37 lacs population.
- (b) 20 kW Medium Wave (MW) Transmitter at Thiruvananthapuram is around 17 years old. It is working satisfactorily at optimum power and providing coverage as mentioned in part (a). This transmitter also provides coverage in sea area for more than 250 kms radius which is useful in disaster management.

(c) There is no proposal at present, for replacement of existing AIR MW Transmitters, by a higher power transmitter as it is already on maximum power in accordance with Low Frequency (LF)/Medium Frequency(MF) Regional Frequency Assignment Plans. However, the 10 kW FM Transmitter at Thiruvananthapuram has been replaced recently.

The other steps taken for better broadcast at AIR Stations in the state of Kerala are given at **Annexure-I.**

As far as Doordarshan is concerned, Modernization is a continuous process and schemes in this regard have been formulated and implemented from time to time. Modernization plan covers a broad spectrum, which, inter alia, includes digitalization; adoption of new technologies at par with International standards; replacement of old ageing equipment and upgradation etc.

Details of major projects taken up for Modernization of Doordarshan stations in the State of Kerala, are given at **Annexure-II.**

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**ANNEXURE AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF RAJYA SABHA  
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**ANNEXURE-I**

**Modernization works carried out for better broadcast at AIR Stations in the  
State of Kerala**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>AIR Station</b>	<b>Details of Modernization work carried out.</b>
1.	ALAPPUZHA (ALLEPPEY)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Digitalization of Radio Network Terminal (RNT).</li></ul>
2.	DEVIKULAM (IDUKKI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Replacement of 6 KW FM Transmitter.</li></ul>
3	KANNUR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Up-gradation of 6 kW FM Tr by 10 kW FM Transmitter.</li></ul>
4	KOCHI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Up-gradation of 6 kW FM Tr by 10 kW FM Transmitter.</li><li>• Replacement of 10 KW FM Transmitter.</li><li>• Digitalization of Studios and Networking.</li><li>• Digitalization of Studio Transmitter Link (STL).</li></ul>
5	KOZHIKODE (CALICUT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Digitalization of Regional News Unit (RNU).</li><li>• Digitalization of Studios and Networking.</li><li>• Digitalization of Studio Transmitter Link (STL).</li></ul>
6	MANJERI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Digitalization of Radio Network Terminal (RNT).</li></ul>
7	THIRUVANANTHAPURAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Replacement of 10 KW FM Transmitter</li><li>• Digitalization of Studios and Networking.</li><li>• Digitalization of Studio Transmitter Link (STL).</li></ul>
8	THRISSUR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New 1 KW FM Transmitter.</li><li>• Digitalization of Studios and Networking.</li><li>• Digitalization of Studio Transmitter Link (STL).</li></ul>

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**ANNEXURE-II**

**Major projects taken up for Modernization of Doordarshan stations in the State of Kerala as part of 12<sup>th</sup> Plan Schemes:**

1. Studio centre at Thrissur has been digitalized.
2. State-of-art digital equipment such as HD Camcorder & Recorder/Deck, 32x32 Routing Switcher, Digital Phone-in-Console, Digital Frame Synchronizer, Camera chains, Audio Mixer, HD NLE etc provided to replace old/ obsolete equipment at DDK Thiruvananthapuram.
3. Digital High Power Transmitter (HPT) at Thiruvananthapuram has been set-up.
4. For digital HPTs at Kochi & Kozhikode, Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) has been issued for procurement of transmitter equipment.
5. Old 100 W Low Power Transmitters (LPTs) have been replaced by 500 W Automode LPTs at Palghat, Mallapuram & Idukki.
6. For Upgradation of Earth station at Thiruvananthapuram, tenders have been received.