

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 741**  
**(TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2026)**

**EXPANSION OF PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICES IN TRIBAL AND REMOTE AREAS OF JHARKHAND**

**741. SMT. MAHUA MAJI:**

Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has carried out any assessment of the reach, broadcasting quality and availability of programmes in local languages by All India Radio and Doordarshan in the tribal and remote areas of Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the key findings thereof and the steps taken during last five years to strengthen broadcasting services in these areas; and
- (c) whether Government is considering the expansion of programmes by public broadcasters in order to preserve and promote the tribal languages and local culture of Jharkhand?

**ANSWER**  
**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**  
**AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS**  
**(DR. L. MURUGAN)**

(a) to (c): Prasar Bharati provides public broadcasting services through Doordarshan and Akashvani across India including Jharkhand. Jharkhand's tribal and remote areas are also covered.

Doordarshan has two programme production centres with studio facilities in Jharkhand. These are Doordarshan Kendra, Ranchi, and the Programme Generating Facility (PGF), Daltonganj (Medininagar). DD Jharkhand, a 24×7 dedicated channel beamed from

Doordarshan Kendra, Ranchi, telecasts programmes relating to the art, culture, literature, history, heritage, traditions, people, news and current affairs of the State. Programmes are telecast in Hindi and Santhali languages. The channel is also available on Prasar Bharati's OTT platform WAVES, and its content is also uploaded on its YouTube channel.

Akashvani has 16 broadcasting stations in Jharkhand. In keeping with its language and dialect policy, these stations originate general programmes, news and music in local languages/dialects, such as Santhali, Oraon, Khadiya, Mundari, Ho, Nagpuri, Kurmali, Panchparganiya and Khortha.

DD Free Dish, Prasar Bharati's free-to-air DTH service, carries all Doordarshan channels without any subscription fee, and its signals can be received throughout the country, including the tribal and remote areas of Jharkhand. Akashvani and Doordarshan channels are also available on the NewsOnAIR mobile app and the WAVES OTT platform.

Modernisation and upgradation of the broadcasting infrastructure of Doordarshan and Akashvani is a continuous process. The Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development (BIND) scheme is a Central Sector Scheme for development, modernization and upgradation of broadcasting infrastructure of Doordarshan and Akashvani. BIND scheme has been approved with a total outlay of ₹2539.61 crore for 2021-26. The scheme has been extended upto 31.03.2027.

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