

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 335
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2018**

**SHORTAGE OF FUNDS FOR OPERATING AKASWANI,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM.**

335. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

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

- (a) whether the shortage of funds for the operations of the office of Akashvani in Thiruvananthapuram is threatening the jobs of several of its employees;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to resolve the issue;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that the delay in implementation of the proposal to replace the existing AM transmitter, with a 10 KW FM transmitter in Thiruvananthapuram, is severely affecting Akashvani's ability to compete with its competitors;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to take steps to expedite the implementation of the proposal: and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that All India Radio, Thiruvananthapuram has been allocated a sum of Rs. 12.49 crores in Salary account, Rs. 3.28 crore in Other Administrative Expenses(OAE) account and 1.96 crore for Programme Production from Internal Extra Budgetary Resources (IEBR) for the financial year 2018-19. Since the required budget has been allocated, there is no threat to jobs of its employees and for the operation of the office of AIR Thiruvananthapuram.

(c) to (e) Prasar Bharati has informed that at present All India Radio Thiruvananthapuram has 20 KW MW transmitter carrying locally produced primary channel programmes and also 10 KW FM transmitter relaying Vividh Bharati Service.