GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 105 (TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.06.2019)

BROADCASTING REGULATORY AUTHORITY

105 SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to set up broadcasting regulatory authority to meet the requirements of modern society, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to modernize and change the functioning of Doordarshan and All India Radio as to compete with the private channels and radio, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of structural and functional changes made in Doordarshan and All India Radio during the last five years;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to introduce new programmes in the regional Doordarshan Kendras, if so the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to appoint experts in production in regional Kendras as Station Directors and Head of Programmes, if so, the details of the action taken thereon?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is functioning as Regulatory Authority for Broadcasting services in India.
- (b) &(c) Modernization which includes augmentation and replacement of transmitters, Satellite Broadcast equipments, Modernization and Digitalization of Studios, Expansion of DTH, High Definition (HD) TV, expansion of TV channels etc. is a continuous process and schemes in this regard are 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/ outlived equipment and upgradation etc.

All India Radio (AIR) set-up has been modernized with the installation of 38 High Power DRM (Digital Radio Mondiale) Transmitters in different parts of the country. The Studio Transmitter Link is upgraded to digital almost at all locations. 98 digital, multi-channel studio consoles have been installed and the digitizations of archives have been accomplished.

- (d) As the Public Service Broadcaster, Doordarshan's programming is focused on issues of public interest viz. health, education, empowerment, social justice etc., Doordarshan is striving to provide impactful and compelling programmes to become the preferred channel of choice of people. It is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to modernize its Infrastructure and improve the quality of programmes. Doordarshan has introduced a number of programmes in various genres and formats like travelogue, documentaries, Short Films, health shows, live-phone-in programmes etc. on its network.
- (e) Services of experts are taken by Doordarshan as per requirement from time to time. The senior most officer of a Kendra is designated as Head of the Office and Senior most Programme Officer as Head of the Programme.
