GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1037 (TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2022)

ALL INDIA RADIO

1037. SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE:

SHRI MANOJ KOTAK:

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

- (a) whether All India Radio (AIR) has decided to shut down its local relay stations and relay the programmes through Vividh Bharati, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that the direct bad effect of this reflects on local art, culture, language, entertainment, local artists, audiences along with those who spend majority of their "life" working as "casual announcers" which is going to be badly affected;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is true that in "digitalization" era, "Radio" has kept its own pride and glory in the country;

- (e) whether the Prasar Bharati has any policy of "One Nation, One All India Radio" and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to save and get rid of the fear of losing its policy of old identity which is troubling everyone in the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

- (a): No Sir.
- (b) & (c): Does not arise.
- (d): Based on the need and requirement of its network, AIR has taken up several initiatives for dissemination of AIR services to the listeners across the globe. AIR broadcasts in 23 languages and 181 dialects from 501 centres in the country. Live streaming of more than 280 channels including Vividh Bharati National Service, FM Rainbow & Gold and programmes of AIR stations have also been started and these channels can be received globally through "NewsOnAir" mobile app. In addition, AIR is also active on social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook & YouTube, etc.

(e): No Sir.

(f): The expansion of AIR network is a continuous process as per the extant schemes of the Government. The obsolete / outlived equipments have been replaced by modern state of art equipments for production & storage of contents and broadcasting. The channels can also be listened through "NewsOnAir" mobile app.
