

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3436
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2023)

DTH FACILITIES

3436. SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to stop terrestrial transmissions of Doordarshan and All India Radio;**
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government in this regard, so far;**
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the capability of Indian population to avail cable facility or satellite facility such as Direct-To-Home (DTH) and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government has provided DTH facility all over India;**
- (e) if so, the details regarding the area covered by DTH and the areas not covered by DTH, State/ UT-wise;**

- (f) whether the Government proposes to close down the transmission centers before ensuring the availability of DTH facility in that area and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (g) whether the Government conducted any test regarding the availability of DTH facility before stopping the terrestrial telecasting, if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government in this regard?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND

MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) to (g) In view of emerging trends in Broadcasting and availability of “DD Free Dish”, a free-to-air Direct to Home (DTH) Service of Prasar Bharati, carrying more than 160 TV channels including 51 educational channels, the Analogue Terrestrial TV (ATT) Transmitters of Doordarshan carrying only one channel have lost their relevance and have become obsolete. Accordingly, Prasar Bharati has decided to phase out the obsolete ATTs. So far, more than 1300 Doordarshan ATTs have been shut down in a phased manner. However, 55 ATTs in strategic locations and 4 upcoming Digital ready High Powered Transmitters (HPTs) in J&K would remain in operation.

The signals of “DD Free Dish” Direct-to-Home service are available anywhere in the country except Andaman and Nicobar Islands where special 10 channel C-Band DTH service is in operation. Signals of “DD Free Dish” can be received with the help of small sized low cost dish receive units without any monthly subscription cost. Further, more than 260 All India Radio Services are live streamed through “NewsOnAir” App for listening anywhere in the world.
