

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION No. *168
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2021)

RADIO STATION IN DARBHANGA

***168. SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR:**

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

- (a) whether radio station in Darbhanga district of Bihar is functional and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up 100 KW transmitter and 10 KW FM channel in Darbhanga radio station and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to renovate the building of Darbhanga radio station; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND

MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *168 FOR ANSWER ON 30.07.2021.

(a) Yes, Sir. An All India Radio Station is functional in Darbhanga district of Bihar. This station has a Studio and an associated 20 KW Medium Wave Transmitter that carries the regional Service of Akashvani Darbhanga at 1296 KHz MW frequency.

Presently, the station has daily 15 hours and 40 minutes transmission on Medium Wave; from 0550 hrs to 1520 hrs and 1700 hrs to 2310 hrs with 11 hours of transmission originating from Akashvani Darbhanga and relay of various national/regional programmes for a period of 4 hours and 40 minutes.

This station is broadcasting programmes on a variety of themes to suit the needs, concerns and aspirations of the target audience, in Hindi and other languages such as Maithili, Urdu, Sanskrit, English and Bajjika dialect.

(b) At present, there is no approved scheme to setup a 100KW transmitter and 10 KW FM channel in Darbhanga radio station. However, Akashvani Darbhanga is available to national and international audiences on "NewsOnAir" App through Internet Streaming.

(c) and (d) AIR Complex at AIR Darbhanga has been affected due to increase in level of roads encircling AIR Station which causes water logging problem during the rains. An on-ground assessment has been carried out on required mitigation measures.

To address the matter, as an immediate measure, Prasar Bharati has decided to raise the front area of the studio building so that the movement of vehicles and people is not affected during the rainy season. Funds have been sanctioned and the process of work has been initiated.
