

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1409**

**(TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.12.2021)**

**CLOSURE OF RADIO STATIONS**

**1409. SHRI L.S. TEJASVI SURYA:**

**DR. UMESH G. JADHAV:**

**SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:**

**SHRI B.Y. RAGHAVENDRA:**

**SHRI Y. DEVENDRAPP:**

**SHRI SANGANNA AMARAPPA:**

**SHRI ANNASAHEB SHANKAR JOLLE:**

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

- (a) the number of radio stations under the All India Radio (AIR), State-wise/UT-wise, as on date;**
- (b) whether the Government is in the process of merger or closure of several radio stations/channels, if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the merged radio stations/channels;**

- (c) the measures taken by the Government to ensure the broadcasting of regional/local content in the merged radio station/channel;**
- (d) the estimated expenditure to be saved by the Government through the above process per year; and**
- (e) whether the AIR has closed the Amruthavarshini FM radio channel in Bengaluru, if so, the details thereof and the measures taken/being taken by the Government to ensure preference to local artistes post-closure?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND**

**MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS**

**(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

**(a) Prasar Bharati is having 500 All India Radio Broadcasting Centres across the country. State/UT-wise numbers of these centres are given at Annexure.**

**(b) to (d) No, Sir. Prasar Bharati is not closing any Akashvani radio station in India. Obsolete analog transmitters are phased out from time to time with the availability of alternate transmission technologies such as FM, Satellite Radio through DTH and Internet Streaming.**

**Further, Content Reforms are undertaken from time to time to ensure that the National, Regional and Local Services of Akashvani serve diversity of content, while optimally leveraging the scarce resources, giving opportunity to local talent and improving quality without duplication of content.**

**The operational expenditure of these services is being met through the Internal and Extra-Budgetary Resources (IEBR) of Prasar Bharati.**

**(e) No, Sir. Prasar Bharati has not closed AIR FM Radio Channel at 100.1MHz in Bengaluru. Instead, its broadcasting transmission hours have been increased to about 17 hours by incorporating programmes from the Raagam 24x7 National Radio Service dedicated to Indian Classical Music.**

**Multiple Akashvani stations including AIR Bengaluru contribute several hours of classical music content daily to Raagam 24x7 thus providing opportunities to artists from respective cities/regions.**

## ANNEXURE

**ANNEXURE AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1409 FOR ANSWER ON 07.12.2021****STATE/UT-WISE NUMBERS OF AIR BROADCASTING STATIONS**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>States</b>	<b>Total AIR Stations</b>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	39
3.	Assam	23
4.	Bihar	16
5.	Chhattisgarh	13
6.	Goa	1
7.	Gujarat	17
8.	Haryana	5
9.	Himachal Pradesh	16
10.	Jharkhand	14
11.	Karnataka	20
12.	Kerala	12
13.	Madhya Pradesh	25
14.	Maharashtra	30
15.	Manipur	9
16.	Meghalaya	7
17.	Mizoram	13
18.	Nagaland	10
19.	Odisha	21
20.	Punjab	8
21.	Rajasthan	26
22.	Sikkim	16
23.	Tamilnadu	15
24.	Telangana	11
25.	Tripura	18
26.	Uttar Pradesh	29
27.	Uttarakhand	22
28.	West Bengal	16
<b>Union Territory</b>		
29.	UT (A & N Island)	1
30.	UT(Delhi)	1
31.	UT (Chandigarh)	1
32.	UT (Dadra, Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu)	3
33.	UT (L & M Island)	1
34.	UT(Puducherry)	2
35.	UT (Jammu & Kashmir)	16
36.	UT (Ladakh)	9
<b>Total</b>		<b>500</b>

