

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *84

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2022)

DEVELOPMENT OF AIR AND DOORDARSHAN

***84. SHRI MALOOK NAGAR**

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

- (a) the details of amount spent by the Government since 2014 for the development of All India Radio and Doordarshan services;**
- (b) the schemes under which media has been apprised of the policies of the Government and the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to allow any broadcaster other than the All India Radio to broadcast on Indian Radio; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be started?**

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

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a) Government of India is committed to development, modernization and strengthening of Doordarshan and Akashwani (Prasar Bharati) infrastructure and services which is a continuous process. Grant-in-Aid is provided to Prasar Bharati under Central Sector Scheme 'Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development (BIND)'. The components of this scheme include Modernization, Digitization, Augmentation and Replacement of Transmitters, Broadcast Equipment and studios, FM expansion/Replacement, Expansion of DTH and Strengthening of coverage in sensitive areas and content development. Besides this, grants are also provided to Prasar Bharati for salaries of their deemed on deputation employees.

The details of Grants-in-Aid (non-salary) provided to Prasar Bharati under Central Sector BIND scheme from the financial year 2014-15 till 31.12.2021 is Rs.2379.24 Crore.

(b) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting is implementing a Central Sector Scheme namely Development Communication and Information Dissemination (DCID) Scheme with the objective to create awareness generation among citizens about various schemes and programmes of the Government of India to enable the targeted beneficiaries to avail the benefits of the developmental schemes, elicit enhanced participation of the people in the process of development and governance and foster attitudinal and behavioral changes through its three media units i.e. Press Information Bureau (PIB), Bureau of Outreach & Communication (BOC) and New Media Wing (NMW).

(c) and (d) The Government has allowed companies registered in India under the Companies Act, to be eligible for bidding and obtaining permissions for FM radio channels as per the provisions of extant Private FM Radio policy guidelines. Presently, there are 386 Private FM Radio channels in the country.
