

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.349**  
**(TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2022)**

**CLASSICAL MUSIC PROGRAMMES**

**349. ADV. A.M. ARIFF:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any decision to broadcast Hindi programmes at prime time slots through Frequency Modulation (FM) stations of All India Radio (AIR) including those in Kerala by replacing the popular programmes in the local languages, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (b) whether the Government is aware that classical music programmes broadcasted by the Thiruvananthapuram Station of AIR on a daily basis in the morning have been abruptly stopped and if so, the reason therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government will take immediate steps for restoring the classical music programmes broadcasted by the Thiruvananthapuram Station of AIR on a daily basis in the morning;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reason thereof; and**
- (e) the details of funds allocated for AIR stations in Kerala from FY 2018-19 to FY 2021-22?**

## **ANSWER**

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

**(a) Prasar Bharati always strives to improve its programme by continuous evaluation and modification of the programme schedule as per audience feedback in all FM stations of All India Radio. The programme schedule is a mix of both Hindi and local language in most of the FM channels out of which majority of the time is given to local language. FM Aakashvani Ananthapuri Vividh Bharati Malayalam of AIR Thiruvananthapuram is relaying only 3 hours of entertainment, out of 17:30 hours of original programming. Similarly, Real FM Kozhikode (Calicut) airs only four hours of national Vividh Bharati slots out of its 17:30 hours of transmission. Except these two FM channels, all other AIR channels in Kerala are broadcasting only local programmes.**

**(b) The schedule of classical music programme on AIR Thiruvananthapuram is being broadcast twice a week. The local station is at liberty to broadcast its own recorded or live content as per its Fixed Point chart or on popular demand.**

**(c) & (d) Considering the listener's requirements, the programme composition is reviewed once in six months.**

**(e) Rs.23.10 Crore was allocated for AIR Stations in Kerala during the Financial Years 2018-19 to 2021-22.**

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