

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2284
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2016)**

PEACE PROMOTING PROGRAMMES FOR NAXAL AFFECTED AREAS

**2284. DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:
SHRI SATAV RAJEEV:
DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to counter extremist propaganda in Maoist and Naxal affected areas with peace promoting programmes;
- (b) if so, the details and salient features thereof;
- (c) whether the content of the programme is likely to be aired in tribal languages also, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government also proposes to install new high power transmitters in areas most affected by left wing extremism; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with funds allocated for the same?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)

(a) to (c): Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan(DD) and All India Radio (AIR) are telecasting Developmental programmes on Education, Youth Welfare, Women Empowerment, welfare schemes for the area, Forest Act and Rights of Tribals including coverage of local festivals and tribal folk music in their local languages and dialects.

The thrust is largely on the developmental schemes/activities of the Government of India and the State Governments. These programmes also dwell on the need of maintaining law and order in the concerned areas so that people's progress could be achieved faster. Programmes are aired on the theme of dissuading the youth from getting involved in anti-social activities and persuading those, who have misguidedly taken to arms, to come back and join the mainstream.

(d) & (e): Yes, Madam. As far as AIR is concerned, 06 nos. of new FM High Power Transmitters (HPT) have been planned in Left Wing Extremist (LWE) affected areas at a total cost of Rs.28.06 Crores, details of which are under:

- | | | |
|----|-------------|----------------------|
| 1. | Kakinada | East Godavari/A.P. |
| 2. | Muzaffarpur | Muzaffarpur/Bihar |
| 3. | Amibikapur | Sarguja/Chhattisgarh |
| 4. | Dhanbad | Dhanbad/Jharkhand |

- | | | |
|----|--------------|--------------------|
| 5. | Bhawanipatna | Kalahandi/Odisha |
| 6. | Suryapet | Nalgonda/Telangana |

In addition to this, existing old/outlived transmitters at AIR stations functional in LWE affected areas are also planned for replacement by High Power Transmitters.

As far as Doordarshan is concerned, a part of digitalization scheme approved under 12th Plan Projects of setting up digital HPTs, at a cost of Rs. 6.62 crore each, have been implemented at the following locations in LWE affected areas:

1. Muzaffarpur (Bihar)
2. Jagdalpur (Chhattisgarh)
3. Jamshedpur (Jharkhand)

Moreover, all the areas uncovered by terrestrial transmitters are covered with multichannel TV coverage through Doordarshan's free to air DTH service. It is possible to receive DTH signals anywhere in the country including LWE affected areas, with the help of a small sized dish receive unit.
