

Board should be done away with to reduce burden on newspaper establishments; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to Ministry of Labour, since the recommendations of the Manisana Wage Board have been accepted recently these would remain in force until the Award of next Wage Board. The constitution of the next Wage Board is, therefore, not under consideration.

Decline in the Quality of DD's programmes

†79. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 20 percent people in the country have no access to Radio/Doordarshan's programmes even today;

(b) if so, the details thereof, state-wise/area-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that quality of Doordarshan's programmes has been failing continuously; and

(d) if so, whether Government are contemplating to formulate any scheme in order to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

Terrestrial coverage of Doordarshan is presently estimated to be available to about 89.1% population of the country. Doordarshan programmes are available in satellite mode throughout the country. All India Radio programmes are presently received by approximately 98.82% of population in the country. State-wise coverage figures for AIR/DDs are given at statement (*See below*).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[20 November, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Statement

AIR and TV Coverage

(A) ALL INDIA RADIO

STATEWISE COVERAGE DURING DAY TIME

Existing

		Area%	Population
1.	2.	3.	4.
L	STATES		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	99	99.5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	57	72
3.	Assam	94.22	97.5
4.	Bihar	99*	99*
5.	Chhattisgarh	90.9	95.17
6.	Goa	99*	99*
7.	Gujarat	99*	99*
8.	Haryana	99*	99*
9.	Himachal Pradesh	50	87.4
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	31	98
11.	Jharkhand	99*	99*
12.	Karnataka	96.2	96.8
13.	Kerala	99.6	99.6
14.	Madhya Pradesh	98.33	8.76
15.	Maharashtra	98	98.8
16.	Manipur	48.3	80.4

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1.	2.	3.	4.
17.	Meghalaya	97.5	97.3
18.	Mizoram	57.2	67.9
19.	Nagaland	77	82.5
20.	Orissa	98	98.8
21.	Punjab	99*	99*
22.	Rajasthan	91.5	98.8
23.	Sikkim	72	95
24.	Tamil Nadu	99*	99*
25.	Tripura	84.31	88
26.	Uttar Pradesh	99.3	99.75
27.	Uttaranchal	52.8	75.76
28.	West Bengal	99	99
II	UNION TERRITORIES		
1.	A & N Islands	80	85
2.	Chandigarh	99*	99*
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	99*	99*
4.	Delhi	99*	99*
5.	Daman and Diu	99*	99*
6.	L & M Islands	99*	99*
7.	Pondicherry	99*	99*
NATIONAL COVERAGE		89.51	98.82

(B) TV COVERAGE IN STATES/UNION TERRITORIES

Sl. No.	State/U.T.s	Present Coverage (As on 1.11.2001)	
		Area%	Pop.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	80.6	87.7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16.7	53.3
3.	Assam	74.6	82.8
4.	Bihar	93.4	93.4
5.	Chhattisgarh	57.5	69.8
6.	Goa	99.9	99.9
7.	Gujarat	84.3	86.0
8.	Haryana	96.8	98.7
9.	Himachal Pradesh	42.9	67.3
10.	Jharkhand	96.7	97.4
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	36.9	91.9
12.	Karnataka	70.1	76.2
13.	Kerala	99.1	92.5
14.	Madhya Pradesh	73.6	75.3
15.	Maharashtra	79.6	88.6
16.	Manipur	32.1	67.0
17.	Meghalaya	94.6	97.2
18.	Mizoram	69.0	73.1
19.	Nagaland	68.5	69.6
20.	Orissa	87.4	92.0
21.	Punjab	99.9	99.9
22.	Rajasthan	71.3	78.1
23.	Sikkim	77.4	95.0
24.	Tamil Nadu	93.6	93.6
25.	Tripura	93.5	93.5
26.	Uttar Pradesh	90.0	96.2
27.	Uttaranchal	54.6	80.3

Sl. No.	State/U.T.s	Present Coverage (As on 1.11.2001)	
		Area%	Pop.
28.	West Bengal	95.9	96.2
29.	A & N Islands	26.2	99.5
30.	Chandigarh	99.9	99.9
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	65.2	65.0
32.	Daman & Diu	99.9	99.9
33.	Delhi	99.9	99.9
34.	L'Dweep Islands	99.0	99.0
35.	Pondicherry	99.9	99.9
NATIONAL AVERAGE		76.6	89.1

NOTE

1. Coverage figures are inclusive of fringe areas (elevated antennae & boosters are required for obtaining reception in fringe areas).
2. Terrain conditions not taken into consideration.
3. 99.9% coverage has been indicated in respect of those States/U.T.s entire area/population of which lies in the coverage zone of existing/proposed transmitters. There is possibility of certain uncovered pockets in these States/U.T.s due to shadow areas.

Funds for Journalists

80. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Journalists desire a Fund to help their next of kin in case of their death on duty; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) This Ministry has set up a Journalists Welfare Fund for providing *ex-gratia* relief to the journalists or the families of those journalists who suffer permanent disability or loss of life due to unnatural causes in the course of their duty.