

Radio broadcasting from other countries

†1845. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in the frontier district Pithoragarh of Uttarakhand radio broadcasting from other countries is more prominently heard;

(b) if so, whether Government will consider to expand the capacity of transmitter installed in the radio station at Pithoragarh upto 10 kilowatt so that radio broadcast of our country may be heard in remote rural areas of the frontier district; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to scale down the effect of radio broadcast from other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE) : (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that radio broadcasting from other countries are also being heard in the some parts of frontier district Pithoragarh of Uttarakhand.

Presently, 1kW MW and 100 W FM transmitters are providing radio coverage to the district of Pithoragarh of Uttarakhand. AIR Programmes broadcast from SW transmitters are being heard in the remote rural areas of the frontier districts including Pithoragarh.

21 radio channels (Programmes) of AIR have also been made available on DTH platform (DD FREE DISH) and these can be received through a set top box all over the country with the help of small sized dish antenna receive units.

(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that a scheme for setting up of 10 kW FM transmitter at Pithoragarh has been approved under Twelfth Plan.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Transfer of News Readers of DD/AIR

1846. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the News Readers working permanently in Doordarshan (DD) and All India Radio (AIR) are being transferred routinely to different stations, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of such regular employees have been

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.