

- (a) whether Prasar Bharati is looking to spread its wings overseas, digitally;
- (b) whether it is a fact that one of the stated missions of Digital Prasar Bharati, will be to challenge the anti-India narrative in foreign media through hard and compelling commentary;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the proposed English language digital platform will focus on global economy, geopolitics, international terror, global crisis and soft power; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that the Expert Committee on Prasar Bharati setup by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting under Chairmanship of Mr Sam Pitroda had recommended Global Outreach of Prasar Bharati through a world class broadcasting service using next generation opportunities, technologies, business models and strategies, with a focus on projecting the national view rather than the official viewpoint. It was recommended that the platform be designed for the New Media first and then extended to conventional television.

In 2016, the Prasar Bharati Board had constituted a Committee for setting up of a globally respected Digital News Platform advocating National interest. The committee submitted a report to the Board giving the vision, mission, operating structure etc which has been accepted by the Board for execution.

Sanctioned strength of DD Kendras in Odisha

3908. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the sanctioned strength of technical and non-technical employees at Sambalpur, Doordarshan (DD) Kendra in Odisha and number of posts lying vacant;
- (b) the actual requirement of the work force and whether Government is considering to sanction the required man power at the earliest, considering the work load of the Kendra; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal to install high power Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM) Transmitter in the Sambalpur Kendra to increase the coverage area, if so, by when, if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) and (b) The details of sanctioned, filled and vacant posts for DDK Sambalpur (Odisha State) are as under:—

Wing	Sanctioned	Filled	Vacant
Engineering	38	22	16
Programme	17	2	15
Administration	19	8	11
TOTAL	74	32	42

DD Kendra Sambalpur has been producing programmes with available manpower resources.

(c) No Sir. However, the old outlived valve type 100 kW MW transmitter at Sambalpur has been replaced by new state of the art MW digital ready transmitter.

Third party coverage of 49th IFFI

3909. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes, a third party coverage of the 49th International Film Festival of India (IFFI);

(b) if so, whether Government has floated a national tender in this regard;

(c) whether Government has received any proposal from Doordarshan regarding their unwillingness to do coverage in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details of proposal of Government and reason behind to rift Prasar Bharati in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (d) The 49th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is scheduled to be held in Goa from 20-28th November, 2018. At present, no proposal for third party coverage of the 49th IFFI is under consideration.

No proposal from Doordarshan has been received till date to do coverage in respect of IFFI-2018.