

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.3272  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.03.2022)**

**STRENGTHENING OF REGIONAL NEWS UNIT IN NORTH EASTERN STATES**

**3272. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA:**

Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Prasar Bharati is planning to strengthen the Regional News Unit (RNU) of all AIR and Doordarshan stations in the North Eastern States, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Prasar Bharati is encouraging young professionals to join as news correspondent in the North Eastern States;
- (c) whether reporters are engaged in All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan Kendra (DDK) on casual basis in Guwahati, if so the details thereof including the number of such reporters; and
- (d) whether some reporters are engaged in AIR and DD News on long term contract basis in Guwahati, if so the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) There are 10 Regional News Units (RNUs) of All India Radio(AIR), and 7 RNUs of Doordarshan(DD) functional in the eight North Eastern States of the country. Prasar Bharati is currently managing its requirement of news coverage in North Eastern region through these AIR and DD RNUs. The augmentation and modernization of these RNUs is a continuous process and scheme for this purpose is formulated from time to time depending upon the requirement of Prasar Bharati and availability of resources.

(b) Prasar Bharati empanels Part Time Correspondents (PTCs) and Stringers for news gathering for AIR and DD from time to time on functional need basis.

(c) & (d) Prasar Bharati has 5 casual reporters empanelled with RNU in DD Guwahati, and 36 active stringers in various districts of Assam to cater to the day to day needs.

Further, there is one Regular Correspondent posted at RNU AIR Guwahati. In addition, there are 23 Part Time Correspondents (PTCs) associated with RNU in AIR Guwahati for news gathering activities at present.

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