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आकाशवाणी एवं दूरदर्शन तकनीकी कर्मचारी संघ A.I.R. & D.D. Technical Employees Association

(भारत सरकार द्वारा पंजीकृत एवम् मान्यता प्राप्त)
(Registered and Recognised by Govt. of India)

No. 2298/63

www.adteaindia.org

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Post Box No. 736
नई दिल्ली-110001
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Ref. No.: ADTEA/2018/005

Date: 15.01.2018

To,
Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani,
Hon'ble Minister for Information & Broadcasting,
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting,
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001



Subject: Rationalization of Analog Terrestrial Transmission of Doordarshan- reg.
Reference: DG: DD order No.: 8/2/2017-EIV(Pt.)/15 dated 12.01.2018.

Respected madam,

With warm regards, we want to draw your kind attention on the above subjected vital decision of DG :DD regarding closure of LPT/VLPT/Transponders. It is a matter of deep shock, that, with the approval of Prasar Bharti Board, Doordarshan is going to close its 272 LPTs/VLPTs/Transponders from 12/02/2018 in various places of country, without any alternative system to continue the coverage in that areas. Already 38 analog TV transmitters located in 18 capital stations have been asked to shut the operations with effect from 11.01.2018. This association has come to know that there is no approval of Ministry of I&B regarding this step of DG: DD.

AIR & DD employees were felt exalted & honoured when the present NDA Govt. has emphasized the importance of National Broadcaster and *our Hon'ble Prime Minister has chosen AIR & DD to communicate with the general public through the monthly programme "Maan Ki Baat"*.

It is to mention here that Doordarshan being Public broadcaster of India having largest terrestrial network covering 95% of the geographical area and nearly 100% of the population of the country with the help of 1416 transmitters. Therefore, we hereby request you for kind intervention to save the National Broadcaster. Here are the main points as:-

Doordarshan adopted DVB-T system for digital television in July 1999. The first DVB-T transmission was started on 26 January 2003 in the four major metropolitan cities, which never took off due to non availability of receiving systems at user end.

From 2015 onwards, DVB-T2 Digital terrestrial transmitters (DTT) were installed in nearly 20 major stations. Here again the same pathetic situation continues as

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the general public will not be able to watch the programmes due to non availability of set top boxes or dongles, in local market.

- ## We, the Subordinate Engineering Employees have been advocating since long to strengthen the national broadcaster, by installing AIR FM transmitters in all TV relay centres, to ensure the coverage of FM throughout the country without extra cost. Our existing infrastructure and staff is sufficient to operate these transmitter without extra burden on Govt.
- ## In the entire world, All India Radio & DD are the only media units who has the dual responsibilities of National Broadcaster and Public Service Broadcaster. So, we have to fulfil our responsibilities by ensuring the maximum reach to the public up-to the farthest corner of the country.
- ## DTT is also an important communication tool for disaster management with emergency response due to localized nature of services and ability to provide reception on portable and mobile hand held devices with god quality service without being impacted by weather conditions. Hence, on inception of DTT, AIR & DD can fulfil its services in natural disaster also.
- ## Being the national broadcaster, AIR & DD have to ensure the security and integrity of our country, by protecting our territory from the false propaganda of our neighbouring countries, especially from Pakistan. The fact is that Pakistan TV has the strong signal penetration in our border areas of J&K, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, and Rajasthan despite having our transmission in those areas. Similar is the presence of Nepal TV in border areas of UP, China CCTV and Bangladesh TV in border areas of Eastern & North Eastern states.

Hence, The day , we close down the terrestrial transmission in our border areas, such as Doda, Kishtwar, Machil, Pahalgam, Pulwama, Shopian, Anantnag etc. the enemy country channels will surround those areas with their total presence which cannot be diplomatically advisable for our beloved country. Hence, it is the need of hour to take step to strengthen our signal in those border areas to counter the false propaganda of enemy country rather than to shut the transmitters. But fail to understand the decision of DD authorities to closedown these transmitters without any alternative (Since total digitization need a very good time, i.e. 4 to 5 years, for implementation).

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We are surprised at the sudden decision of the authorities to shutdown analog transmitters in 18 major Kendras immediately, denying lakhs of people, their right for genuine information & entertainment. We request your goodself to immediate intervention and direct authorities to ensure the availability of receiving equipment to the viewers give sufficient time and publicity before closing analog transmission in these 18 major cities. Till then, analog transmitters may be allowed to continue to beam the programmes. We are of the strong opinion that the analog transmitters may be replaced with digital transmitters, over a period of time. Till then, the analog transmitters may be continued to function. Even European Union decided to switch terrestrial transmission from analog to Digital mode in 2005 and mostly completed in Europe in 2013, till then the transmission was in simulcast mode.

Hence, it is the humble request of this association to kindly intervene in the matter by directing the Doordarshan authorities to take back the step (proposed shutdown of analog transmitters) until the availability of receiving equipment to the viewers and any alternative (total digitization). Failing which, Doordarshan will be completely black out from general public throughout the country. Also, kindly provide a meeting with the representative of this association to bring all the facts before the Hon'ble Minister by intimating allotted time slot of meeting and obliged hereby.

Thanking you madam.

Yours Sincerely,

UMA KANT JOSHI
15/01/2018
(UMA KANT JOSHI)

Jt. Secy.

For President ADTEA

M 9871053111,

Copy for information and necessary action:-

- 1) Sh. N.K.Sinha (IAS), Secretary to GOI, Ministry of I&B, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
- 2) Sh. S. S. Vempati, CEO Prasar Bharti, Coparnicus Marg, New Delhi.
- 3) Director General Doordarshan, Doordarshan Bhawan, mandi house, New Delhi.

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