

ELAMARAM KAREEM

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

LEADER

CPI(M) Group in Rajya Sabha



Member:

- Standing Committee on Labour
- Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises

11-11-2020

Dear Shri. Prakash Javadekar ji,

Sub: - Replacement of Medium Wave Transmitter at AIR Kozhikode Station- Reg.

I would like to bring your attention to the subject mentioned above and requesting for an urgent intervention on the same. As you may be aware that the All India Radio (AIR) Kozhikode station started functioning in the year 1950 and it has played a vital role in the socio-cultural fabric of the Malabar region in Kerala. AIR Kozhikode is the only AM transmitter which operates on 684 KHz AM band serving Kozhikode, Malappuram, Wayanad and parts of Kannur districts of the state. It is to be noted that the present 100 KW transmitter of this station, which was commissioned in 1994, has served its life and is in need of urgent replacement.

I understand that the All India Radio is replacing old generation AM transmitter by latest digital transmitters which are capable of broadcasting up to 3 channels. As the AIR has adopted the international Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM) which allows for multiple FM-like radio services and has provision to transmit both Digital and AM signals; its programmes can be received in digital radio receivers as well as in the conventional AM receivers. It may also be noted that this type of transmission through DRM is already operational in the AIR stations in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Telengana. Also, AIR is having 38 transmitters already updated and transmitting test transmission in DRM mode all over India. But unfortunately, there is no move from the AIR authorities to replace the old 684 KHz AM band transmitter in the Kozhikode station.

It is a fact that the conventional radio channels and stations have a significant role to play even in this digital era. AIR Kozhikode station is still having a good number of active listeners and this station is following its own legacy of nurturing local talents, cultural and religious diversities of this region with a strong sense of social commitment. But the authorities are not showing that much interest to update its capacity and thereby enabling Kozhikode station to cater more number people. In this scenario I am requesting your personal intervention on this matter and kindly do the needful for replacing the old Medium Wave Transmitter of AIR Kozhikode station and provide a latest Digital Transmitter for its primary channel at the earliest.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,


(Elamaram Kareem)

**Shri. Prakash Javadekar,
Hon'ble Union Minister,
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting,
Govt. of India.**