No.CEO/PB/2(4)/2020


To

The Chief Secretaries of All States and Union Territories.

Subject: Request for Support in Ensuring Operational Continuity of Prasar Bharati’s (Doordarshan and All India Radio) Broadcast Services in view of threat of COVID-19 Outbreak.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

The Central Government as well as State Governments are taking necessary steps to prevent spread of COVID-19. At this juncture, various efforts being made by various agencies need to be properly disseminated to the public. Prasar Bharati being Public Broadcaster must shoulder this responsibility diligently. For this it is necessary that various infrastructure of Prasar Bharati is running properly. Prasar Bharati has taken all the precautions to deploy minimum employees in various establishments so as to ensure effective implementation of social distancing to contain the spread of COVID-19.

2. You will no doubt appreciate, ensuring uninterrupted operation of critical broadcasting infrastructure of the Public Broadcaster is of paramount importance. Critical broadcast infrastructure of Prasar Bharati include Doordarshan Kendras, Earth Stations, Terrestrial TV Transmitters (HPTs, LPTs etc.), All India Radio Stations and Transmitters (Short Wave, Medium Wave and FM), etc.

3. I would like to request you that for operational continuity of Broadcasting services of Prasar Bharati, the following may kindly be kept in view in case any restrictions are being contemplated to be imposed for containment of COVID-19:

   a. All critical broadcasting infrastructure be permitted to remain operational by deploying adequate manpower.

   b. For accessing critical broadcasting infrastructure locations, the movement of the staff be permitted.

   c. Support of Police and disaster response forces (NDRF and SDRF) be provided, if necessary.

4. I am advising my Field Units to be in touch of local administration for getting necessary support to ensure uninterrupted Broadcast services.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

( Shashi Shekhar Vempati )