

## **What are your comments on these proposals?**

While recognising the potential benefits of digital transmissions, consideration should be given to the use of radio as a fall back communication system for government communications to the population.

The am radio receiver in its many forms is cheap, has low power consumption and facilitates selection of transmissions from around the globe.

Reports of DAB radios suggest power consumption is much higher and hence with a shortened battery life comms may not be sustained for a long period.

While recognising the rapidly dwindling importance given to science and technology in our country we should recognise that the construction of an am/fm receiver provides many with a rewarding initial step towards a science or engineering career.

Do we really wish to forclose such an option by restructuring the spectrum to facilitate digital transmissions?