

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3265  
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2003  
PRIVATE FM RADIO SERVICE  
HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP

**Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:**

- (a) the de facto as well as the de jure authority looking after the private FM Radio Service;
- (b) whether anybody can start private FM Radio Service;
- (c) if not, the established rules and adopted procedure to set up a private FM Radio Station; and
- (d) the mechanism to monitor the functioning of such private FM Radio service/Broadcast?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (d) The licences for private FM Radio Broadcasting are given by this Ministry, which is also looking after the implementation. Inter-ministerial consultations, whenever required, are also held. Stations were put up for auction in 2000 and only those companies who were successful and signed Licence Agreements with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting could start FM Radio Services. Private FM radio stations were permitted to be set up after fulfillment of eligibility criteria, inter-ministerial clearances, submission of bank guarantees & obtaining of WPC operating licence etc.