

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4455
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2005
FM PRIVATE OPERATORS
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

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

- (a) whether the Government has set up a Task Force to recommend the policies and norms for FM private operators;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Task Force has submitted its report;
- (d) if so, the salient features thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI)

(a) to (e) The Government has already notified a new policy for expansion of FM radio broadcasting through Private Agencies (Phase II). The policy, inter-alia, provides for One Time Entry Fee (OTEF) to be decided on the basis of closed tender system, annual fee @ 4% of gross revenue subject to a minimum of 10% of Reserve OTEF, foreign investment including FDI, upto 20% of the paid up equity, continued restriction on broadcast of news and current affairs programmes and a graded penalty regime for violation of Terms and Conditions. The policy also provides for migration of Phase I operators to Phase II regime. Further details of the policy are available on Ministry's website www.mib.nic.in