

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1467

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2004

FM RADIO STATIONS

Mistry Shri Madhusudan Devram

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

- (a) whether his Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has drawn up an ambitious road map to set up 400 FM radio stations in the private sector throughout the country;
- (b) if so, the locations thereof, particularly in Karnataka and the objective of setting up FM Station throughout the country;
- (c) the terms and conditions of the agreement signed between the private parties and the Central Government in this regard; and
- (d) the estimated revenue income from these FM radio stations?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA)

- (a) About 400 stations have been identified, which are envisaged to be utilized for expansion of private FM radio in phase II.
- (b) In Karnataka, Bangalore, Hubli, Mangalore, Belgaum, Gulbarga, Mysore and Davangere are envisaged for expansion of private FM radio. In the year 1999, the Government had allowed the setting up of private FM radio stations at 40 locations (Phase-I) with the following main objectives;
 - i) Expansion of FM network;
 - ii) Radio programmes with superior quality of fidelity and reception and generation of programmes with local content and relevance;
 - iii) Fillip to broadcasting and encouragement of new talent;
 - iv) Generation of employment;
 - v) Generation of revenue for the Government.

- (c) & (d) The policy for expansion of private FM radio in phase II is yet to be finalized.