

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:115
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2010
REVIEW OF FM POLICY
Pangi Shri Jayaram

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to review the FM radio policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has finalised new guidelines for the purpose; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. JATUA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to introduce a new policy for expansion of FM radio broadcasting services through private agencies (Phase-III). Main reasons for the new policy are as follows:

- (i) Unmet demand for FM radio in many cities.
- (ii) To bring border areas, particularly J&K, North-East and island territories, under the FM map.
- (iii) To auction vacant channels from Phase-II which could not be auctioned due to litigation.
- (iv) To utilize the frequency spectrum earmarked for FM broadcasting.

(c) & (d) No, Sir. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) recommendations received in this regard are under consideration of the Government and the guidelines are under finalization.