

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:761
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010
PERMISSION FOR FM RADIO
Meinya Dr. Thokchom

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

- (a) whether the Government has issued any guidelines for granting permission to operate FM Radio stations in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any person can start/operate FM Stations after getting permission from the State Government/Local Authority;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Based on TRAI recommendations, the Government of India formulated a policy on expansion of FM radio broadcasting services through private agencies (Phase-II) to supplement and complement the efforts of All India Radio. The Policy was announced on 13-07-2005. The Phase-II policy was further modified on 24-09-2008 to facilitate transfer of shares for the purpose of creation of a subsidiary company, amalgamation of companies of the same group, de-merger of company etc.
- (c) to (e) No, Sir. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is the sole licensing authority to grant permission for operating a private FM radio station. The permissions are granted to eligible Indian companies registered under the Companies Act, 1956 on the basis of closed tender bidding/system.