

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6202
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2010
FUNCTIONING OF FM RADIO
Natarajan Shri P.R.

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

- (a) whether foreign control is permitted in FM Radio services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Non-Resident Indians religious groups are also permitted to operate FM Radio Stations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the revenue earned by the Government for FM Radio services annually?

Answer

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

- a) No, Sir. As per the FM policy (Phase-II), the foreign investment is permissible to the extent of only 20% of the paid up equity of an entity holding permission for a private FM radio channel.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Under clause 3.1 of the FM policy (Phase-II), religious bodies or their controlled/associated companies are not eligible for obtaining permission for FM radio channels. However, under clause 8.1 of FM policy Phase-II, NRIs can invest in the paid up equity of an entity holding a permission for a private FM radio channel, subject to a cap of 20% on Total Foreign Investment.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) The Government earned revenue to the tune of Rs 50.76 crore (approx.) during the Financial Year ending 31st March 2010.