

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3387  
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2010  
GUIDELINES FOR FM RADIO  
Alagiri Shri S. ;Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad

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

- (a) whether the Government has proposed/proposes to bring about a radio revolution by improving the scope of 400 FM radio stations and 4000 Community Radio Stations in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to liberalise the prescribed rules/guidelines for the purpose;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the extent to which such rules/guidelines are likely to be liberalised to implement the said proposal?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): As on 25.11.2010, 245 private FM radio stations and 93 Community Radio Stations are operational. Government is considering further expansion of private FM radio services under proposed FM Phase-III policy. A total of 806 FM radio channels are proposed in 283 cities. Proposed guidelines seek to liberalise the present FM Radio policy and incentivise their expansion in Jammu & Kashmir, North Eastern States and island territories. The proposed guidelines seek to bring down operational costs and improve viability in general. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) level is also proposed to be increased from 20% to 26%. Policy will enable operators to diversify their content.

There is no proposal to revise the guidelines for Community Radio Stations.