GOVERNMENT OF INDIA INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:379 ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011 SETTING UP OF FM RADIO STATIONS Chauhan Shri Dara Singh;Meghe Shri Datta Raghobaji

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

- (a) the number of FM radio stations set up/functional in the country, State-wise and location-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to launch new FM Radio stations/services in other parts of the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise;
- (d) the total expenditure likely to be incurred for setting up of these new FM radio stations/services, State-wise and location-wise; and
- (e) the time by which new FM radio stations/services are likely to be functional?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN)

- (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that at present 184 AIR FM Stations are functional in the country as per details given in Annexure-I. At 27 more places, 100 Watt FM transmitters (Relay) have already been installed and the same will be taken into regular service on the receipt of Frequency clearance from Department of Telecom, Ministry of Communications & IT. . The details are given at Annexure-I(A). In addition, 245 Private FM Radio Stations (including 21 stations operationalized under phase-I) are functioning in the country as per details given in Annexure-III
- (b) Yes Sir.
- (c) & (d) During the 11th Plan, FM transmitters of various capacities are being installed by AIR at 278 more places throughout the country. The state wise list of the places and the expenditure likely to be incurred against each place is given in Annexure-II

In addition, expansion of FM broadcasting through Private agencies (Phase-III) has also been approved by the Government on 07.07.2011 by which FM Radio services has been extended to about 227 new cities, in addition to the present 86 cities with a total of 839 new FM Radio channels.

The entire expenditure for establishment of Private FM Radio Station is borne by themselves. The State-wise location-wise details are given in Annexure-III(A)

(e) Most of the AIR FM Stations are likely to be completed by December 2012.As regards Private FM Radio Stations, no time frame has been fixed by the Government.