

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7372  
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012  
FM CHANNEL FOR STUDENTS  
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**Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to have an exclusive FM channel for educating students in the remote and other areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Kerala; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): All India Radio (AIR) does not have any exclusive FM channel for educating students in the country including remote areas.

However, Government has signed an agreement with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) for operationalisation of exclusive FM stations for educational broadcast at 40 places, including two stations at Cochin and Thiruvananthapuram in the State of Kerala. Out of these 40 stations, 37 are presently operational, and in 3 places viz Jamnagar, Ludhiana and Bhubaneshwar, IGNOU has decided not to set up FM stations. IGNOU has informed that it is in the process of submitting a proposal to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting through Ministry of Human Resource Development to set up more Gyan Vani stations across the country under Phase II after obtaining the approval of the competent bodies within IGNOU. The location of these additional Gyan Vani station will be finalised after obtaining the feasibility report from All India Radio and Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Ltd. and after giving due consideration. State-wise details of the 37 Operational Gyan Vani stations are at Annexure.

(c): Does not arise.