

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7510

ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012

COMMUNITY RADIO STATIONS

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Bhoi Shri Sanjay;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Khaire Shri Chandrakant
Bhaurao;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash;Singh Shri Rakesh

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

- (a) the guidelines issued by the Government for setting up of Community Radio Stations in the country;
- (b) the organisations/bodies eligible to set up these radio stations;
- (c) the number of proposals received from various organisations/bodies for setting up of such stations during each of last three years, State-wise and organisation-wise;
- (d) the status of each of such proposals and the time by which all these proposals are likely to be cleared by the Government; and
- (e) the reasons for not issuing wireless operating licenses in some cases even after paying licence fee?

Answer

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

- (a) Permissions to set up Community Radio Stations are governed by the Policy Guidelines for setting up of Community Radio Stations in India which were issued in the year 2006. These Guidelines are available on Ministry's website www.mib.nic.in.
- (b) Educational Institutions and Community based organisations, which include civil society and voluntary organization, State Agriculture Universities (SAUs), ICAR institutions, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Registered Societies and Autonomous Bodies and Public Trust registered under Societies Act or any other such act relevant for the purpose are eligible to set up Community radio stations.
- (c) From 2009 onwards, 646 proposals have been received from various organisations/bodies for setting up of Community Radio Stations. State-wise and organisation-wise list is at Annexure.
- (d) Out of 646 proposals received from 2009 onwards 139 permissions have been issued, 234 were rejected/closed. 273 such proposals are presently under consideration in the Ministry at various stages. List of such proposals is available on Ministry's website www.mib.nic.in. No time frame can be prescribed to clear all these proposals, as several internal Ministerial clearances are required to grant permission to set up community radio station.
- (e) WPC wing of Ministry of Communication & IT has informed that 10 cases are presently pending for issuing of wireless operating licenses due to insufficient payment of Spectrum Charges or submission of requisite documents by the applicants.