

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:735  
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012  
IMPEDIMENTS TO FM RADIO SERVICES  
Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

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

- (a) whether there are any impediments to the rollout of FM radio services in the country including in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the locations identified to provide FM radio services in various parts of the country under its Phase-III policy, State-wise and location-wise; and
- (d) the time by which the services of new FM stations under phase-III is likely to be provided in the country including Rajasthan, location-wise?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Cabinet, in its meeting held on 7.7.2011, has approved the 'Policy Guidelines on Expansion of FM Radio broadcasting services through private agencies (Phase-III)'. While taking action for implementation of the Phase III policy, a few issues, like charging of migration fee from existing permission holders, specific departures in the Request For Proposals (RFP) etc., which are not covered under the Phase III policy have arisen. As this is the first time that private FM radio channels are proposed to be e-auctioned, it is anticipated that some other issues may also crop up during this process which would require decisions, that would need specific approvals beyond the existing Cabinet approval. Draft Cabinet Note in this regard has already been circulated to all the concerned Ministries/Departments.

(c) & (d): As per approved policy guidelines on expansion of FM radio broadcasting services through private agencies in Phase-III, Government proposes to expand FM radio services to a total of 839 new private FM radio channels in 294 cities. Under Phase-III Policy, 45 private FM radio channels are proposed in Rajasthan. All the channels in Phase-III in the country, including those of Rajasthan would be auctioned through an e-auction process in batches over a period of 3 years, with the approval of Hon'ble Minister in the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. State-wise and location-wise list of private channels of Phase-III including Rajasthan are at Annexure.