

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1391
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2012
OPENING OF SATELLITE TV RADIO CHANNELS
Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

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

- (a) whether the Government has received proposals from various States for opening of satellite TV and Radio channels in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and current year;
- (c) the status of the said proposals, State-wise;
- (d) whether there is any shortage in the availability of spectrum and transponder for new satellite and radio channels; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has not received any proposal from State Governments for opening of satellite TV and Radio channels during each of the last three years and the current year.
- (c) In view of (a) & (b) question does not arise.
- (d) & (e) WPC wing of Ministry of Communication and IT has informed that there is no shortage of spectrum for terrestrial FM Radio channels.

The Satellite Communication & Navigation Programme Office, ISRO HQ, Department of Space (DOS) has informed that there is a shortage of transponders in INSAT/GSAT satellites. Currently, there are 168 transponders in INSAT/ GSAT satellites and 94 transponders from leased satellites. In order to meet the requirements, transponders are leased from foreign satellites and offered to the customers. In the case of requirements in C-band capacity for Television uplink, the users are permitted to lease the required capacity directly with foreign satellite operators for a three year period.

Whenever there is a shortfall in transponder capacity, DOS / ISRO initiates a process of leasing transponders from foreign satellite operators for a period of three years to meet the immediate demand and concurrently plans for building indigenous satellite/transponders capacities.