

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1761
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012
SPECTRUM FEE FOR CRS
Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan

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

- (a) whether many organisations have demanded to roll back the hike in the spectrum fee for operating Community Radio Stations (CRS) in the country.
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether his Ministry has requested the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology(CIT)to roll back the spectrum fee for community radio stations; and
- (d) if so, the response of the Ministry of CIT thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI)

- (a) & (b) WPC wing of Ministry of Communication & IT has informed that representations from various organisations including Community radio forums have been received to roll back the revised spectrum charges for Community Radio Stations (CRS).
- (c) This Ministry had requested Ministry of Communication & IT on 10th May, 2012 to reconsider the decision and to roll back the increase in the spectrum fee for community radio stations.
- (d) Ministry of CIT has informed that a High Level Committee in Department of Telecom was constituted to look into various issues raised in such representations. The Committee has submitted its report. In this regard decision on spectrum charges for CRS is under process.