GOVERNMENT OF INDIA INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2461 ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013 FM RADIO SERVICE

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

- (a) the number of proposals received by the Government from the various States to set up FM radio stations and the present status of such proposals along with the action taken thereon during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has reviewed the programmes broadcast on FM channels in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the deficiency identified during the said review along with the remedial steps taken thereon during the said period;
- (d) whether the Government is aware of indecent and vulgar contents being broadcast on private FM radio channels;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken against the FM radio operators/ channels during the said period, channel-wise and the details of the monitoring mechanism/ regulatory body to check/regulate such content being broadcast on FM radio; and
- (f) the details of applications received by the Government to operate FM radio service and the present status of the said applications along with the details of applications still pending and the time by which the pending applications are likely to be cleared, State/ UT-wise?

Answer

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

- (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that AIR has received a total of 18 proposals from various States/ UTs to set up FM radio Stations during the last three years and the current year. The States /UTs-wise details along with the action taken in each of the said proposal is given in Annexure-I.
- (b) & (c) Yes Sir. The Audience Research Unit of All India Radio conducts regular studies across the country to gather feedback from the audience about the programmes of all the channels of AIR. The programmes of different channels are accordingly reviewed and modified as per the listeners needs and made more listeners friendly.
- (d) & (e) The Government has taken note of the objectionable and vulgar contents aired by Private FM channels. The details of such FM channels and action taken thereon against them are given at Annexure-II.

In addition, an advisory has also been issued to all private FM Radio channels on 28.01.2013 to strictly adhere to the terms and conditions prescribed in the Grant of Permission Agreement (GOPA) and to exercise discretion and restraint in broadcast of content.

Off air programmes broadcast by each private FM channel are stored in loggers for 3 months. These stored programmes are checked on monthly basis for any violation by BECIL.

(f) At present Government has not invited any fresh application for operation of private FM radio stations.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 2461 FOR ANSWER ON 12.03.2013

Details of proposal received for setting up of Radio Stations

- Shimoga Karnataka At present, there is no approved scheme at this place. Setting up of 10 kW FM transmitter has been proposed under 12th Five Year Plan. However, the scheme is yet to be approved / sanctioned by competent authority.
- Mathura Uttar Pradesh 1 kW MW transmitter is already functional.
 In addition to this, a 100 watt FM transmitter approved under 11th Plan has also been commissioned.

2010-11

- 1. Bhavnagar Gujarat A 100 watt FM transmitter approved under 11th Plan has been commissioned. Additionally, setting up of a 10 kW FM transmitter has been proposed under 12th Five Year Plan. However, the scheme is yet to be approved / sanctioned by competent authority.
- Anooppur Madhya Pradesh At present, there is no approved scheme for this place.
- 3. Phulbani Odisha A 100 watt FM transmitter is being installed.
- 4. Mon & Tuensang Nagaland 1kW MW (CRS) is already working at both the places. Additionally, scheme for replacement of these 1 kW MW transmitter by 1 kW FM transmitter have been proposed under 12th Five Year Plan.

 However, the scheme is yet to be approved / sanctioned by competent authority.
- Sikkim (North,) Sikkim At present, there is no approved scheme for South & West these places.
 Districts
- Rampur Uttar Pradesh 1 kW FM transmitter already commissioned on interim setup from April' 2012.
- 7. Malda, Chanchal West At present, there is no approved scheme Bengal at this place. However, setting up of 10 kW FM transmitter has been proposed under 12th Five Year Plan. However, the scheme is yet to be approved / sanctioned by competent authority.

1. Perinthamanna Kerala At present, there is no approved scheme for this place. 2. Minicoy & other Lakshwadeep At present, there is no approved scheme for these place. major Islands of (UT) Lakshwadeep 3. Panna (MP) Madhya Pradesh At present, there is no approved scheme at this place. However, setting up of 100 Watt FM transmitter has been proposed under 12th Five Year Plan. However, the scheme is yet to be approved / sanctioned by competent authority. 4. Phulbani. Odisha A 100 watt FM transmitter is being installed. 5. Muktsar Punjab At present, there is no approved scheme for this place. 2012-13 1. Satana Maharashtra At present, there is no approved scheme for this place. 2. Harda Madhya Pradesh A 100 watt FM transmitter approved under 11th Plan has been commissioned. 3. District Godda Jharkhand At present, there is no approved scheme for this place. 4. Bankura West Bengal At present, there is no approved scheme for this place. ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) & (e) OF LOK SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 2461 FOR ANSWER ON 12.03.2013

S.No. NAME OF THE DATE OF NAME OF THE SUBJECT STATUS PETITIONER RECEIPT BROADCASTER/CHANNEL

- Cabinet 25.09.2007 Red FM M/s Digital Red FM has made Apology was tendered by Secretariat Radio Broadcasting Limited. certain derogatory the M/s Digital Radio remarks about the in terms of Gorkha community TDSAT order 7.1.2009 during the period from 14.3.2009 to 20.3.2009.
- 2. Shri Pushp 27.5.2009 Radio FM 104 (M/s Obscene words being Action on the complaint of Kumar Chogtu H.T.Music & Entertainment used by 104 Fever FM Shri Pushp Kumar was Co.Ltd.) (M/s H.T.Music & taken way back on Entertainment Co. Ltd. 14.9.2009 and M/s HT

 Music and Entertainment
 Company Ltd. was issued

this Ministry.

3. E-mail received 17.8.2010 Radio City 91.1 HZ, Email received from Advisory dated from Shri Shane Bangalore M/s Music Shri Shane Michael 19.8.2011 issued to the Michael. Broadcast Pvt. Ltd. regarding illicit FM Radio Channel for content aired on Radio strict compliance of City 91.1 HZ, Bangalore terms and conditions prescribed in the grant of permission agreement (GOPA).

4. Smt. G.K.Khurana,21.2.2011 Radio City Indecent remarks The channel was cautioned Secretary General, All 91.1 (Delhi) against Nurses to be careful to the India Govt. Nurses M/s Music Broadcast sensibility of various

Federation Pvt. Ltd. section of the society while airing programme with purported motive of creating fun,humour vide letter dated 05.01.2012 of