

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2496
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013
AUCTION OF FM RADIO LICENCES
Choudhry Smt. Shruti

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

- (a) whether the Government has auctioned licences to operate FM radio services in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) the details of revenue generated therefrom during the said period, State/UT-wise?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Under the Policy for FM broadcasting services through private agencies (Phase-I), the Government auctioned 101 private FM radio channels across 40 cities in the country during 1st March to 15 March, 2000. Subsequently, under the Policy for expansion of FM radio broadcasting services through private agencies (Phase-II), the Government conducted bidding for 337 channels in 91 cities, across the country, during January-February, 2006. At present, 242 FM channels in 85 cities are operational. However, no auction was conducted for private FM radio channels during the last three years and the current year.

(c): Does not arise.