

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2507
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013
COMMUNITY RADIO STATIONS
Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up 500 new Community Radio Stations (CRSs) in the country during the 12th Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the estimated funds required/allocated for the purpose;
- (c) whether the Government has received proposals from various States including Kerala for setting up of CRS;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken on such proposals; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure quality service by the CRSs in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Permission is granted by the Ministry to set up Community Radio Stations (CRSs) to Educational Institutions, Registered Societies/NGOs and Krishi Vigyan Kendras etc. So far, 418 permissions have been given to set up CRS. A proposal has been mooted in the 12th Five Year Plan to permit setting up new CRSs apart from other activities.

(c) & (d) Government has received 1156 applications so far from various states including Kerala for setting up of CRS's. This Ministry has so far issued 418 permissions to various organizations to set up Community Radio Stations in India. State wise list of permissions issued, operational CRS and applications under consideration is available on Ministry's website www.mib.gov.in

(e) The Ministry has been organizing several awareness and capacity building workshops for existing community radio stations all over the country to enhance their technical knowledge and content creation skills. 43 workshops have been organized across the country since 2007. Ministry has also instituted National Community Radio Awards to promote healthy competition for better programming on Community Radio Stations.