

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4319

ANSWERED ON:20.02.2014

FUNCTIONING OF FM RADIOS STATIONS

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to frame any new guidelines with regard to the functioning of FM radios/stations and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the All India Radio (AIR) proposes to start/set up new radio stations and FM services at various places including Belgaum apart from the existing ones and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has received representations/applications for seeking licenses to start FM channel services/broadcasting stations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the details of pending representations/applications and the time by which they are likely to be cleared, State/UT-wise?

Answer

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

- (a) No, Sir. However, the policy on expansion of FM Radio broadcasting services through private agencies (Phase-III) was approved by the Government on 7th July, 2011.
- (b) Prasar Bharati (DG:AIR) has informed that in order to start the AIR FM radio broadcast service, FM transmitters are being set up at 112 additional cities. State-wise details are given in Annexure-I.
- (c) to (e); As per the policy guidelines on expansion of FM Radio services through private agencies (Phase-III), only companies registered in India are eligible to set up private FM Radio in India. Applications for grant of permission under Phase-III policy are yet to be invited by the Ministry.