

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:199  
ANSWERED ON:09.07.2014  
COMMUNITY RADIO STATIONS  
Mullappally Shri Ramachandran

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

- (a) the number of community radio stations operating in the country at present;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up more community radio stations in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of pending applications for setting up community radio stations, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the time by which the pending applications are likely to be cleared by the Government?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING, ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR).

(a) 170 Community Radio Stations are presently operating in the country.

(b) & (c) Grant of permission to organisations to set up Community Radio Stations (CRS) is a continuous process. Ministry grants permission to Educational Institutions, Registered Societies /NGOs and Krishi Vigyan Kendras etc. to set up CRS. Awareness workshops are being organized by this Ministry to sensitize people about the policy and create awareness amongst aspiring applicants about issues relating to setting up, operation & maintenance of Community Radios. So far 55 awareness workshops have been organised across the country. 8 more such workshops are scheduled during the year 2014-15. Besides this, four National Sammelans have been organised for Community Radio operators, Government Ministries and Departments, UN organisations and other stakeholders for exchange of ideas and discussions. A new Plan Scheme "Supporting Community Radio Movement in India" has also been introduced to provide financial support to new as well as existing CR Stations for setting up studios, purchase of equipment, building capacity, and upgrading technology etc.

(d) & (e) 216 applications, received from various organizations, for setting up Community Radio Stations are under various stages of inter-Ministerial clearances. State/UT-wise list of pending applications is at Ministry's website at [www.mib.nic.in](http://www.mib.nic.in).

No time frame can be prescribed to pending applications, as various inter-Ministerial clearances are required to grant permissions to set up community radio stations.