

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5071

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2014

FM STATIONS

Meinya Dr. Thokchom; Rai Shri Prem Das

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

(a) the number of FM Stations of All India Radio (AIR) and those operationalised by private agencies in various States of the country including in the North East Region, State/UT-wise;

(b) the policy of the Government on expansion of FM Radio Stations particularly in North East Region; (

(c) the details of the projects undertaken by the Government for setting-up FM stations in the North-East Region during each of the last three years and the current year and the funds allocated/utilised for the purpose during the said period and the current status of projects, project-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure completion of each of these projects in a time-bound manner?

Answer

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

(a) Prasar Bharati has informed that presently All India Radio (AIR) FM Stations are functional at 368 locations including North-East Region in the country. State/UT-wise details are given in Annexure-I. At present 243 Private FM channels are operational by 37 companies. The State-wise details of operational channel including North-East Region is given in Annexure-II

(b) As far as All India Radio is concerned, expansion of FM service is being carried out in a phased manner under Five Year Plans.

Under the Policy Guidelines for expansion of FM Radio broadcasting services through Private Agencies (Phase-III), Government proposes to e-auction 839 such channels in 294 cities/towns which includes North-East Region as per laid down guidelines.

(c) Details of projects under taken for setting up of FM relay transmitter at 120 locations in the North-East Region by AIR during the last three years and the current year along with current status are given in Annexure-III

Funds allocated /utilised for these scheme during the last three years are as under:

Year	Funds allocated	funds utilised
(Rs. in Cr.)	(Rs. in Cr.)	(Rs. in Cr.)

2011-12	45	40.16
2012-13	10	9.84
2013-14	4	5.83
2014-15	4.50	1.21 (upto June '2014).

(d) These projects are being closely monitored both by the North East Zonal office of AIR at Guwahati and Directorate level. All efforts are being made to complete these projects in a time-bound manner.