

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:85
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2016
Community Radio Station for Tribal Community
Patel Shri Subhash

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

- (a) the salient features of Community Radio Stations (CRS) along with the number of operational CRS across the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for starting CRS for tribal community in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the states in which the said radio service has been started /likely to be started?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING
(SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU)

- (a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 85 FOR REPLY ON 22.07.2016

(a) Community Radio Station (CRS) is a low-power radio station operated by the local community/local organisation for development communication. It provides an opportunity to the community to speak about issues concerning their lives. CRS operate on Frequency Modulation (FM), which is easily accessed by people on their radio sets or mobile phones. At present 196 CRS are operational across the country. State/UT-wise details are at Annexure.

(b) & (C) Permission to set up Community Radio Station is granted under the Policy Guidelines for setting up of Community Radio Stations in India, issued in the year 2006. These guidelines are available at Ministry's website, www.mib.nic.in. Eligible organizations can apply for permission to set up CRS at any time in any part of the country including organizations working for tribal communities. Permission is granted, subject to fulfillment of eligibility criteria and receipt of clearances from Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Wireless Planning and Coordination Wing of Ministry of Communication & IT, Ministry of Human Resource Development and Ministry of Agriculture and, as the case may be.

Ministry is organizing awareness workshops in districts where no CRS exist i.e. CR dark districts. Organisations working in CR dark districts are invited in these workshops to ensure that Community Radio stations are set up in such areas.
