

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 412
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.11.2024**

FM RADIO STATIONS

**412 SHRI SELVAM G:
SHRI C N ANNADURAI:**

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

- (a) the total number of FM radio stations currently operational across the country along with the number out of them which are licensed under the Government's policies;
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to expand the coverage of FM radio stations in remote, rural and underserved areas and the timeline fixed for achieving nationwide FM coverage;
- (c) the places identified for setting up new FM stations in the country, State/UT-wise particularly in Tamil Nadu;
- (d) whether the Government is auctioning channels in all cities of the country including Tamil Nadu under the Private FM Radio Phase-III Policy and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of community Frequency Modulation (FM) Radio Stations presently functional in the country?

ANSWER

**MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS, INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, ELECTRONICS &
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

- (a) There are 625 Akashvani FM Transmitters including relay stations, and 388 Private FM channels operational across the country.
- (b) to (d) The modernization and expansion of Akashvani network is a continuous process under the Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development Scheme (BIND) of Prasar Bharati. The places identified for setting up new Akashvani FM Transmitters is enclosed at Annexure. Also, the Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for e-auction of 730 Pvt. FM Channels in 234 new uncovered cities including 11 cities in Tamil Nadu, details of which are available on Ministry's website www.mib.gov.in. This will enhance access to diverse and local content, increased opportunities for content creators thus encouraging creativity, employment and encouraging local languages as well as cultures.
- (e) There are 521 Community Radio Stations (CRS) operational in the country.

Annexure

S.No	State/UT	District	Proposed location
1	Gujarat	Bhavnagar	Bhavnagar
2	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	Sarkaghat
3	Jharkhand	Giridh	Giridh
4	Jharkhand	Kodarma	Kodarma
5	Madhya Pradesh	Singrauli	Singrauli
6	Uttar Pradesh	Basti	Basti
7	Uttar Pradesh	Etah	Etah
8	Uttar Pradesh	Hardoi	Hardoi
9	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool	Nandyal
10	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	Chintapalle
11	Andhra Pradesh	Vizianagaram	Vizianagaram
12	Bihar	Darbhanga	Darbhanga
13	Bihar	Gopalganj	Gopalganj
14	Bihar	Katihar	Katihar
15	Bihar	Seharsa	Seharsa
16	Chhattisgarh	Bastar	Jagdalpur
17	Chhattisgarh	Dakshin Bastar Dantewada	Bailadila
18	Chhattisgarh	Kondagaon	Kondagaon
19	Chhattisgarh	Narayanpur	Narayanpur
20	Chhattisgarh	Uttar Bastar Kanker	Kanker
21	Gujarat	Devbhumi Dwarka	Devbhumi Dwarka
22	Gujarat	Kachchh	Bhuj
23	Gujarat	Patan	Radhanpur
24	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	Churah
25	Jharkhand	Pakur	Pakur
26	Jharkhand	Simdega	Simdega
27	Karnataka	Shimoga	Shimoga
28	Karnataka	Udupi	Udupi
29	Ladakh	Leh	Leh
30	Maharashtra	Bid	Ambajogai
31	Odissa	Baleshwar	Balasore
32	Rajasthan	Ganganagar	Anupgarh
33	Rajasthan	Jaisalmer	Jaisalmer
34	Rajasthan	Sikar	Sikar
35	Tamil Nadu	Salem	Yercaud
36	Tamil Nadu	Thanjavur	Kumbakonam
37	Tamil Nadu	Vellore	Vellore
38	Uttar Pradesh	Farrukhabad	Farrukhabad
39	Uttarakhand	Nainital	Nainital

S.No	State/UT	District	Proposed location
40	Uttarakhand	Pithoragarh	Munasyari
41	Uttarakhand	Pithoragarh	Pithoragarh
42	Rajasthan	Tonk	Tonk
43	Odissa	Sundergarh	Bonaigarh
44	Rajasthan	Udaipur	Vallabhnagar
45	Gujarat	Morbi	Morbi
46	West Bengal	Darjeeling	Kalimpong
47	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	Dharampur
48	Bihar	Champanan	Motihari