

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3331
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2005
RADIO REVOLUTION
Mahato Shri Sunil Kumar;Thummar Shri Virjibhai

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to bring about a radio revolution by improving the scope of 400 FM Radio Stations and 4000 Community Radio Centres;
- (b) if so, whether Government is considering to liberalise the rules in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which the rules are likely to be liberalized?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI)

(a) to (d) Yes Sir, The Government has, on 13th July, 2005, notified the policy for expansion of FM Radio broadcasting services through private agencies (Phase II). The Policy, inter-alia, provides for One Time Entry Fee (OTEF) to be decided on the basis of closed tender system, annual fee @ 4% of gross revenue subject to a minimum of 10% of Reserve OTEF, foreign investment including FDI, upto 20% of the paid up equity, continued restriction on broadcast of news and current affairs and a graded penalty regime for violation of terms and conditions. The policy also provides for migration of Phase I operators to Phase II regime. Further details are available on Ministry's website www.mib.nic.in

The Proposed policy regarding Community Radio is under consideration by a Group of Ministers.