

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:119  
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2006  
PRIVATE FM RADIO STATIONS  
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

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

- (a) the number of stations presently available after completion of the first phase of FM Radio broadcasting through private agencies, State-wise;
- (b) the present status of the second phase;
- (c) the number of additional frequencies likely to be added, State-wise;
- (d) whether all parts of the country are proposed to be included in any one of the FM Channels;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 119 FOR 31ST JULY, 2006 REGARDING PRIVATE FM RADIO STATIONS.

(a) 21 private FM radio channels – Maharashtra - 5, Delhi – 3, West Bengal – 4, Tamil Nadu – 4, Karnataka – 1, Gujarat – 1, Uttar Pradesh – 1, Madhya Pradesh – 1 and Andhra Pradesh – 1, set up under Phase I regime, are presently operational.

(b) The Government invited bids for 337 channels in 91 cities across the country. Out of which 245 channels got finally allocated for which Letters of Intent (LOI) were issued. Two LOIs were later cancelled for non-fulfillment of terms and conditions. Grant of Permission Agreements(GOPA) have been signed in respect of 10 channels, of which 6 have since become operational in interim set up. State-wise details are at Annexure-I.

(c) No increase in number of channels is proposed other than those taken up in FM Phase-II.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

(f) Policy on expansion of FM Radio Broadcasting services through private agencies (Phase II) provides only for specific channels city-wise. No national FM private channel has been permitted. The policy specifically prohibits allocation of more than 15% of total allocated channels in the country to a single company – including its holding, subsidiary, inter-connected companies and companies with the same management. Moreover, networking of channels by any two entities has also been specifically prohibited.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE AS REFERRED TO ON REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 119 FOR 31st JULY, 2006 REGARDING FM RADIO STATIONS.

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of Cities	No. of channels put on bid	No. of channels for which LOI issued	No. of channels cancelled	No. of GOPA signed	No. of operational Stations
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1	Andhra Pradesh	6	22	15	2	2	
2	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	4	0			

3	Arunachal Pradesh	1	4	1
4	Assam	1	4	4
5	Bihar	2	8	2
6	Chandigarh	1	2	2
7	Chattisgarh	2	8	6
8	Daman & Diu	1	2	1
9	Delhi	1	6	5
10	Goa	1	3	3
11	Gujarat	4	16	15
12	Haryana	2	6	6
13	Himachal Pradesh	1	4	3
14	J & K	2	7	2
15	Jharkhand	2	8	7
16	Karnataka	4	19	14
17	Kerala	5	17	17
18	Madhya Pradesh	5	19	15
19	Maharasthtra	13	42	31
20	Manipur	1	4	0
21	Meghalaya	1	4	2
22	Mizoram	1	4	1
23	Nagaland	1	4	0
24	Orissa	2	8	5
25	Pondicherry	1	3	3
26	Punjab	3	12	12
27	Rajasthan	6	25	19
28	Sikkim	1	4	3
29	Tamil Nadu	6	23	19
30	Tripura	1	4	1
31	Uttar Pradesh	9	30	20
32	West Bengal	3	11	11
	Total	91	337	245
			2	10
			6	