

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:464

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2007

POLICIES AND NORMS FOR PRIVATE RADIO OPERATORS

Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

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

- (a) Whether the Task Force set up by the Government to consider the policies and norms for participants of private radio operators for wide coverage of population in the country has submitted their report ;
- (b) If so, the details of the recommendations made by the said Task Force ;
- (c) The action taken/being taken by the Government on such recommendations; and
- (d) The number of FM Radio Stations being operated under All India Radio and operating under private sector separately, State-wise ?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Yes, Sir.The Government on 24.7.2003 constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Amit Mitra, Secretary General, FICCI to make recommendations for FM radio broadcasting through Private agencies.
- (b) The Committee submitted its recommendations to the Ministry in November, 2003.The recommendations of the Committee are available on the Ministry's website [www.mib.nic.in](http://www.mib.nic.in).
- (c) The Government , after examination of the Committee's recommendation and other relevant factors, approved a new policy of expansion of FM Radio broadcasting service through private agencies (Phase-II) which was notified on 13.07.2005. Under the new policy, the Government invited bids for 337 channels in 91 cities across the country.Out of 337 channels, agreement was signed with private operators for operationalisation of 245 channels after successful bidding. Presently 102 FM channels are operational including 21 FM channels operationalised under the Phase-I scheme.
- (d) The number of FM Radio Stations being operated under All India Radio and private sector, State-wise has been indicated in Annexure.