

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:378  
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2007  
FM STATIONS IN TAMIL NADU  
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

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

- (a) the number of FM stations located in Tamil Nadu, city-wise;
- (b) the details of the area of coverage of each of the FM stations;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to expand the coverage or to open more FM stations in the State;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the time by when the proposal is likely to be implemented; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefore?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) 8 All India Radio (AIR) F.M. Stations are operating in Tamil Nadu presently. City-wise locations and coverage of these 8 stations are at Annexure-I. Private FM stations located in Tamil Nadu, city-wise has also been indicated in Annexure-I. The area of coverage of each Private FM Station depends upon technical parameters of Transmitters/antenna and on various physical variables.

(c) to (f) So far as AIR is concerned, 10 KW FM Transmitter at Dharpuri and 100 W FM relay centre at Ooty and Thanjavur are technically ready. As part of ongoing projects two FM transmitters (10 KW each) at Thirunelveli and Madurai are under implementation. Completion of these projects will depend on approval and availability of funds and decision on Operation & Maintenance staff.

As regards Private FM Radio, a policy of FM Radio Broadcasting Service through private agencies was notified in July, 2005. A total of 337 channels were put on bid under this scheme. This includes 27 Channels in 7 cities in Tamil Nadu. Out of 27 Channels, 23 Channels were allotted to Private Operators. For 4 vacant channels, Tender Notice inviting pre-qualifications bids from Private Operators has been issued on 08-06-2007.