GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4390

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2018)

SETING UP OF COMMUNITY RADIO STATIONS

4390. SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL
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Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- a) the guidelines for setting up of community radio stations in the country;
- b) the number of community radio stations operating in the country including Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Maharashtra, State-wise;
- c) whether there are not even 500 community radio stations in the country even after one decade and if so, the reasons therefor;
- d) the number of such radio stations which are likely to be set up in the country during 2018-19, State-Wise;
- e) the steps taken by the Government for further simplification of the application process for setting up of such radio stations; and
- f) whether the Government has planned to strengthen the community radio station movement in the country and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING [COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)]

- a) Policy Guidelines for establishing Community Radio (CR) stations in India, approved in 2002 and as amended in 2006 and January, 2017 are available on Ministry's website www.mib.gov.in.
- b) At present there are 214 operational Community Radio stations in the country including Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Maharashtra. State-wise list of the number of operational CR stations in India is annexed at 'A'.
- c) As mentioned above, there are 214 operational CR stations in the country. Setting up of CR station is a voluntary effort. All the applications,

for setting up of CR station, received in the Ministry are processed as per the Policy Guidelines. The processing of application involves obtaining mandatory clearance from Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Wireless Planning and Coordination Wing, D/o Telecommunications, Ministry of Human Resource Development (in respect of educational institutes), Screening Committee and Inter-Ministerial Committee. The completion of process takes time. Lack of awareness/preparedness among potential organizations also contribute to setting up of less number of CR stations.

- d) There are 357 applicants who have been issued Letters of Intent (LoI) from the Ministry. Out of these, 87 applicants have signed GOPA with the Ministry. These applicants, subject to necessary clearances from Wireless Planning & Coordination (WPC) Wing of D/o Telecommunications, are eligible to set up a CR station. State-wise list of GOPA holders and LoI holders is annexed at 'B'.
- e) & f) Ministry, in its effort to strengthen the Community Radio Movement in the country, simplified the process for application to set up Community Radio Station. Ministry also conducted workshops from time to time to create awareness among the stakeholders, provide guidance and support to the applicants. To promote transparency and digitalization, Ministry has also started www.broadcastseva.gov.in, an online portal.

ANNEXURE AS REFERRED TO IN PART (b) OF THE LSUQ NO. 4390 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2018

State/UT wise list of number of operational Community Radio Stations in India

Sr. No.	STATE/ UT	NUMBER OF OPERATIONAL CRS		
1	Andhra Pradesh	6		
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil		
3	Assam	3		
4	Bihar	6		
5	Chhattisgarh	3		
6	Goa	Nil		
7	Gujarat	7		
8	Haryana	9		
9	Himachal Pradesh	3		
10	Jammu and Kashmir	1		
11	Jharkhand	1		
12	Karnataka	18		
13	Kerala	11		
14	Madhya Pradesh	15		
15	Maharashtra	18		
16	Manipur	2		
17	Meghalaya	Nil		
18	Mizoram	Nil		
19	Nagaland	Nil		
20	Orissa	10		
21	Punjab	5		
22	Rajasthan	9		
23	Sikkim	Nil		
24	Tamil Nadu	30		
25	Telangana	9		
26	Tripura	Nil		
27	Uttarakhand	9		
28	Uttar Pradesh	23		
29	West Bengal	3		
Union Territories				
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil		
31	Chandigarh	3		
32	NCT of Delhi	6		
33	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Nil		
34	Daman and Diu	Nil		
35	Lakshadweep	Nil		
36	Puducherry	4		
GRAND	TOTAL	214		

ANNEXURE AS REFERRED TO IN PART (d) OF THE LSUQ NO. 4390 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2018

State/UT wise list of Letters of Intent (LoIs) Issued and GOPAs signed in India

Sr. No.	STATE/ UT	PERMISSIONS ISSUED	GOPA Signed
1	Andhra Pradesh	09	Nil
2	Arunachal Pradesh	04	01
3	Assam	11	01
4	Bihar	23	03
5	Chhattisgarh	16	03
6	Goa	01	01
7	Gujarat	09	02
8	Haryana	14	08
9	Himachal Pradesh	06	02
10	Jammu and Kashmir	04	Nil
11	Jharkhand	06	02
12	Karnataka	17	03
13	Kerala	05	01
14	Madhya Pradesh	24	07 14
15	Maharashtra	35	
16	Manipur	07	02
17	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil
18	Mizoram	Nil	Nil
19	Nagaland Orissa Punjab	03	Nil 07
20		33	
21		08	03
22	Rajasthan	24	03
23	Sikkim	03	01
24	Tamil Nadu	30	08
25	Telangana	07	Nil
26	Tripura	03	02
27	Uttarakhand	04	01
28	Uttar Pradesh	29	08
29	West Bengal	18	04
	Union Territories		
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	01	Nil
31	Chandigarh	Nil	Nil
32	NCT of Delhi	03	Nil
33	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil
34	Daman and Diu	Nil	Nil
35	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil
36	Puducherry	Nil	Nil
GRAND TOTAL		357	87