

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2577
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2018**

EXPANSION OF FM RADIO NETWORK

2577 SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to expand the FM radio network to bring more cities of the country under FM radio network; and
- (b) if so, the number of cities proposed to be included in this regard and the various steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING {COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)}

(a) & (b) On 20.12.2017 Government has approved e-auction of 683 private FM radio channels covering 236 cities which includes 175 cities having population above 1 lakh and up to 3 lakh besides 10 cities in border areas of J&K and NE States having population up to 1 lakh as per census 2001.

Prasar Bharati/ AIR has informed that presently AIR has 476 transmitters at 442 location which provide FM coverage to urban, semi-urban, rural, hilly, border and Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas of the country. In addition to this, AIR has approved schemes for setting up FM transmitters at 154 new locations across the country.