

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 852
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2023)**

Frequency of Community Radio.

852. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of current frequency range of a Community Radio Station (CRS) and also the details of average accessibility of frequency range of CRS in the country;
- (b) whether the Government will increase the frequency range as double of the current range;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government can allow a special frequency range considering the focused communities like education, agriculture etc. and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government will increase the time advertisements during the programme transmission and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the Government proposes to amend the copyright laws to allow free of cost accessibility of film songs for CRS and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND
MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

- (a) As per provisions of the 'Policy Guidelines for setting up Community Radio Stations (CRS) in India', CRS is expected to cover a range of 5-10 km. For this, a transmitter having maximum Effective Radiated Power (ERP) of 100 W is adequate. However, the actual range of a Community Radio Station may differ from place to place and depends on topography of the terrain.

- (b) (c) & (d) The Policy Guidelines provide that, in case of a proven need where the applicant organization is able to establish that it needs to serve a larger area or the terrain so warrants, higher transmitter wattage with maximum ERP up to 250 Watts can be considered on a case-to-case basis, subject to availability of frequency and such other clearances as necessary from the Ministry of Communication. Requests for higher transmitter power above 100 Watts and upto 250 Watts is subject to approval by the Inter-Ministerial Committee.
- (e) As per the policy guidelines, limited advertising and announcements relating to local events, local businesses and services and employment opportunities are allowed on Community Radio Stations. The maximum duration of such limited advertising is restricted to 7 (seven) minutes per hour of broadcast.
- (f) The Ministry has not proposed any amendment in the copyright laws to allow free of cost accessibility of film songs for CRS.
