

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1046
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.11.2019**

“PRIVATE FM RADIO”

1046. DR. G. RANJITH REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to launch Phase III of Private FM Radio very soon;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are only 11 Private FM Channels in Telangana and there is a huge scope for expansion in view of increasing number of districts to more than 30;
- (d) If so, the steps taken by the Ministry under Phase III to operationalise more private FM Channels in Telangana;
- (e) whether there are any Private FM Channels which cater to the needs of agriculture farmers, fishing community, poultry farmers, dairying and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, whether any provision is proposed in Phase III thereon and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE; MINISTER OF
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND
PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)**

- (a) & (b): Government has launched FM Phase-III of Private FM Radio through successful conduct of auctions for 96 channels in 56 cities under Batch-I and 66 channels in 48 cities under Batch-II of FM Phase-III.

(c) & (d): At present 11 private FM Radio channels are operational in 2 cities in Telangana. FM Phase-III policy envisages FM radio coverage on city-centric basis and not district based coverage.

(e) & (f): As per the Phase-III policy, the license holder is to ensure that at least 20% of the total broadcast in a day (reckoned from 0000 Hrs to 2400 Hrs), is in the local language of that city and promotes local content. This may include the Radio Jockey speaking in local language(s)/ dialect(s) or programmes focused on local culture/ tradition/folk music etc. or other permissible programmes/advertisements in the local language(s)/dialect(s).

