

[3 August, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

Director General (All India Radio) are held by I.A.S. Officers. However these appointments have been made in accordance with the Prasar Bharati Act/the Recruitment Rules for the posts.

(c) and (d) Recruitment Rules for the posts in Prasar Bharati have been framed, keeping in view the requirements of the organisation and the incumbents are recruited in accordance to the existing rules.

F.M. Radio Station in Kerala

1087. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) by when an FM Radio Station in Kerala would be installed;

(b) whether Government have identified the areas where F.M. Radio Stations would be set up in Kerala;

(c) if so, the details of the proposal for setting up an FM Radio Station at Manjerri, Malappuram and whether this project is under execution now; and

(d) by when it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) Three FM transmitters of All India Radio are proposed to be set up during Tenth Five year Plan in Keialaat Konni (5 KW FM Tr.) Trivandrum (10 KW FM Tr.) and Cochin (10 KW FM Tr.) The implementation of above schemes is subject to, among other things, availability of funds and sanctioning of staff. A 3 KW FM transmitter at Manjerri has been commissioned *w.e.f.* 28.01.2006 (single shift) However there is no proposal to set up AIR FM Station at Malappuram as it is covered by Manjerri FM Station

On the private FM side, letters of intent have been issued to private companies to set up 13 FM Radio channels in Kerala at Thiruvananthapuram, Kozikode, Cochin and Thrissur. No Private FM Radio channel is planned to be established at Manjerri and Malappuram.

New T.V. channels

1088 SHRI THENNALAG. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of television channels approved, so far, for telecasting;

(b) the names and details of the channels; and