

The Committee headed by Dr. C. Rangarajan on Sugar Industry has submitted its report to the Government on 5th October, 2012. The Committee has, *inter-alia*, recommended removal of the levy sugar obligation and dispensing with the regulated release mechanism on non-levy sugar; Rationalisation of sugarcane pricing; Abolition of cane area reservation system and bonding; Doing away with the minimum distance norms as States discontinue cane area reservation; liberalisation of sugar trade; market determination of prices of by-products with no earmarked end use allocations; and taking out sugar from the purview of Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packaging Commodities) Act, 1987. The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

Community Radio Projects

*42. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has stopped giving clearances for Community Radio Projects (CRPs);
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of applications for CRPs pending with the Wireless Planning and Coordination Department for clearance at present, State-wise;
- (d) the existing number of CRPs in operation, State-wise; and
- (e) the remedial steps taken by Government for saving this nascent industry which is already struggling for stable financial resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has been issuing permissions to Community Radio Stations (CRS) in accordance with the Policy Guidelines for setting up Community radio Stations in India. Ministry has so far issued 386 Letters of Intent to set up Community Radio Stations. Eligible Institutions can apply at any time to set up community radio stations. Permissions are granted to eligible organisations/institutions subject to the fulfillment of eligibility criteria and clearances received from concerned Ministries.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) At present 165 applications for setting up Community Radio Stations are pending with the Wireless Planning and Coordination Wing, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology for clearance. State-wise details are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(d) At present 141 Community Radio Stations are operating in the country. State-wise details are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(e) In order to provide financial support to Community Radio Stations, the Ministry has proposed a Plan Scheme of Rs.100 Crores in the 12th Five Year Plan namely "Supporting Community Radio Movement in India". This scheme envisages providing assistance to new as well as existing CR Stations for setting up studios, purchase of equipments, building capacity, and upgrading technology *etc.* Every year about 100 new Community Radio Stations and 30 existing CRS will be supported.

Policy guidelines allow Community Radio Stations (CRS) to have advertising of 5 (Five) minutes per hour of broadcast to generate funds for operational expenses and capital expenditure of the CRS. To enable CRS to generate revenue through this mechanism, Ministry has simplified guidelines for empanelment of CRS with DAVP. At present 24 CRS are empanelled with DAVP. Ministry has enhanced the DAVP rates for advertisement on CRS from Rs.1 per second to Rs.4 per second. DAVP has so far issued release orders amounting to Rs. 52,46,946/- to empanelled Community Radio Stations for airing various advertisement spots.

Advocacy with various Ministries including Ministry of Health, Panchayati Raj, Consumer Affairs and the Ministry of Women and Child Development *etc.* is also being done, so that they could involve Community Radio Stations for their communication campaigns.

Statement-I

Details of the applications for CRPs pending for clearance

Sl.No.	State	No. of cases pending for identifying availability of frequencies	No. of cases rejected earlier due to non availability of frequencies	Total No. of cases
1	2	3	4	5
1	West Bengal	4	2	6
2	Andhra Pradesh	4	1	5

1	2	3	4	5
3	Tamil Nadu	5	15	20
4	Madhya Pradesh	4	3	7
5	Orissa	19	14	33
6	Assam	1	3	4
7	Bihar	5	5	10
8	Gujarat	3	0	3
9	Kerala	1	4	5
10	Karnatka	5	3	8
11	Punjab	1	2	3
12	Haryana	4	1	5
13	Rajasthan	7	2	9
14	Chandigargh	6	2	8
15	Maharastra	10	2	12
16	Uttar Pradesh	12	2	14
17	Manipur	2	0	2
18	Jharkhand	2	0	2
19	Meghalaya	1	0	1
20	New Delhi	4	0	4
21	Nagaland	1	0	1
22	Sikkim	1	0	1
23	Jammu and Kashmir	1	0	1
24	Uttarakhand	0	1	1
TOTAL		103	62	165

Statement-II*State-wise number of Community Radio Stations operating at present*

Sl. No.	Name of State	Number of Operationalised Community Radio Stations
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7
2.	Assam	2
3.	Bihar	4
4.	Chandigarh	2
5.	Chhattisgarh	2
6.	Delhi	6
7.	Gujarat	5
8.	Haryana	7
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
11.	Jharkhand	1
12.	Karnataka	11
13.	Kerala	6
14.	Madhya Pradesh	8
15.	Maharashtra	16
16.	Orissa	5
17.	Pondicherry	3
18.	Punjab	2
19.	Rajasthan	6

1	2	3
20.	Tamil Nadu	22
21.	Uttar Pradesh	16
22.	Uttarakhand	5
23.	West Bengal	2
GRAND TOTAL		141

Use of solar power for water pumping

*43. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is large scope of using solar power for water pumping by farmers in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of Government's plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has launched Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) and set a target of 2000 MWp equivalent of Off-grid solar applications including solar water pumping systems by 2022. Government approved the first phase of the JNNSM up to March, 2013 with a target of 200 MWp equivalent of off-grid solar applications. Under the Off-grid Solar Applications Scheme of JNNSM, the Ministry provides a capital subsidy of 30% of the benchmark cost of solar water pumping system having module capacity up to 5kWp, limited to Rs.57/- per watt peak, to individual farmers for irrigation and other uses in the country. Under the Scheme, the Ministry has sanctioned 5323 solar water pumping systems in different states.

Construction of storage facilities

*44. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to construct more storage facilities to reduce wastage of foodgrains; and