Advantage and disadvantage of Community Radio Stations

2076. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of advantages and disadvantages of Community Radio Stations;

(b) the number of Community Radio Stations in operation in the country, State-wise;

(c) what monitoring mechanism Ministry has over Community Radio Stations; and

(d) what are the reasons that Community Radio Stations are not gaining popularity like FM stations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) Policy guidelines for setting up of Community Radio Station (CRS) in India prescribe that the basic objective of the Community Radio broadcasting is to serve the cause of the community in the service area of the permission holder by involving members of the community in the broadcast of their programmes. The programmes should be of immediate relevance to the community. The emphasis should be on developmental, agricultural, health, educational, environmental, social welfare, community development and cultural programmes. The programming should reflect the special interests and needs of the local community.

Community Radio Stations have a unique ability to bring small communities together, focus on their day to day concerns. Community Radio Stations aim to contribute to the lives of the local community by creation of content by the people and for the people of that community. Besides, it plays an active role in the information dissemination amongst the community, thereby, creating awareness and social responsibility.

Creation of enthusiastic community participation and production of fresh and comprehensive content to sustain the interest of the community are some of the challenges faced by Community Radio Stations.

(b) At present 191 CRS are functioning in the country. State-wise details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) There is no pre-censorship of the content of the programmes broadcasted by Community Radio Stations. However, Licensee is required to adhere to the provisions of the Programme and Advertising Code as prescribed for All India Radio and preserve the recordings of programme broadcast for a period of 3 months from

the date of broadcast and produce the same to the Ministry, as and when required. In case of a complaint or otherwise, Ministry may ask the licensee to submit the recordings of programme broadcast.

(d) As per information available, Community Radio Stations are popular in the areas of their operation and have good listenership base. Permission to set up community radio stations may be granted only to Not-for-Profit Organizations like Educational Institutions, Registered Societies, Autonomous Bodies, Public Trusts, State Agriculture Universities (SAUs), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institutions and Krishi Vigyan Kendras.

To strengthen the community radio movement in India, Ministry has introduced a plan scheme namely "Strengthening Community Radio Movement in India". Details of the scheme are available on *www.mib.nic.in*

Statement

State/UT-wise details of Operational Community Radio Stations in India

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Operational CRS
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil
3.	Assam	3
4.	Bihar	5
5.	Chhattisgarh	3
6.	Goa	Nil
7.	Gujarat	6
8.	Haryana	9
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
11.	Jharkhand	1
12.	Karnataka	15
13.	Kerala	9
14.	Madhya Pradesh	15
15.	Maharashtra	17
16.	Manipur	Nil
17.	Meghalaya	Nil
18.	Mizoram	Nil

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Operational CRS
19.	Nagaland	Nil
20.	Odisha	9
21.	Punjab	3
22.	Rajasthan	8
23.	Sikkim	Nil
24.	Tamil Nadu	29
25.	Telangana	6
26.	Tripura	Nil
27.	Uttarakhand	9
28.	Uttar Pradesh	22
29.	West Bengal	2
Union Territories		
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil
31.	Chandigarh	3
32.	NCT of Delhi	6
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Nil
34.	Daman and Diu	Nil
35.	Lakshadweep	Nil
36.	Puducherry	3
	GRAND TOTAL	191

SOP for VVIP events

2077. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has finalized the draft of the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for coverage of VVIP events;

(b) whether Government has put in place any mechanism to prevent and detect deviations from Standard Operating Procedures; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the details of other measures being taken to ensure that there are no errors involved in disseminating information?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (c) Prasar