

Subject: Comments on Consultation Paper on "3rd Phase of Private FM
Radio Broadcasting"

To

Shri S.K.Gupta
Advisor (CN)
TRAI, New Delhi

Dear sir,

Please accept our hearty congrats. Better late than never we are happy to note that TRAI has brought out an excellent consultation paper on FM radio broadcasting. Expansion of FM radio not only to other cities but even to the remote village and hilly areas is the need of the hour as it can help in employment generation too, in addition to entertainment, information and education, especially awareness creation. Important issues raised are FDI limit/cap of 20% currently and allowing private FM broadcasting to cover news and current affairs programme and 7 more issues among others. As govt. is interested in expanding the coverage of FM radio further, the phase 3 is expected to take the services to 92 Cities immediately. We are having a Stakeholders decision on 21st Jan. Soon after that we will send more information suggestions. Kindly note that views of industry differ from that of consumers.

With regards,

Dr.T.Balachandran
Member Consumer Advocacy, TRAI
Cochin