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| **MINISTRY: COMMUNICATIONS REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**  Private Bag X 745, Pretoria, 0001, Tel: +27 12 473 0164 Fax: +27 12 473 0585  Tshedimosetso House,1035 Francis Baard Street, Tshedimosetso House, Pretoria, 1000 |

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 1730**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 2 SEPTEMBER 2016**

**Ms V van Dyk (DA) to ask the Minister of Communications:**

Has the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA) placed a moratorium on community radio licences; if not, (a) how many community radio licences have been issued (i) in the 2015-16 financial year and (ii) since 1 April 2016, (b) what are the names of the stations and (c) in which province is each station located; if so, (aa) since which date has the moratorium been in place and (bb) what are the reasons for the moratorium?

**REPLY: MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS**

Yes, ICASA placed a moratorium on community radio licences.

1. i) ICASA issued twenty three (23) community sound broadcasting service licences in the 2015/16 financial year.

ii) Five (5) were issued since April 2016.

b)/c) The names of the stations and the provinces in which they are located:

| **Licences issued in the 2015/16 Financial Year** | |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of Station** | **Province** |
| Abaqulusi Community Radio | Eastern Cape |
| Voice of Matat Community Radio | Eastern Cape |
| Dihlabeng FM | Free State |
| Eden Community Radio | Gauteng |
| Abusekho Ubunzima Christian Radio Station | KwaZulu Natal |
| Pongola Community Radio | KwaZulu Natal |
| Choice FM | Limpopo |
| Mutsindo FM | Limpopo |
| Polokwane Community Radio | Limpopo |
| Radio Ysterberg | Limpopo |
| Radio Wolkberg | Limpopo |
| Radio Kransberg | Limpopo |
| Radio Naboom | Limpopo |
| Thulamela FM | Limpopo |
| Eyethu Community Radio | Mpumalanga |
| Radio Dagbreek | Mpumalanga |
| Revelation FM | Mpumalanga |
| Lara FM | Northern Cape |
| Radio Magalies | North West |
| Radio Tafelkop | North West |
| Caledon FM | Western Cape |
| Radio Disa | Western Cape |
| Radio Perron Central | Western Cape |

| **Licences issued since 1 April 2016** | |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of Station** | **Province** |
| Radio Karoo | Eastern Cape |
| Sirius FM | Gauteng |
| Jou Radio | Limpopo |
| Hoedspruit Community Radio | Mpumalanga |
| 7441 FM | Western Cape |

aa) On 22 September 2015, ICASA issued a moratorium in respect of applications for class community sound broadcasting service licences and applications for radio frequency spectrum for purposes of providing a community broadcasting service.

bb) The moratorium was necessitated by:

1. A scarcity of analogue radio frequency;
2. The review of the licensing processes and procedures regulations to include a provision for ICASA to process registrations from class community broadcasting licences in two intervals per year. This was concluded in March 2016; and
3. ICASA is in the process of developing new regulatory framework for community broadcasting in the 2016/17 financial year.

The moratorium does not however, apply to pending applications received by the Authority before September 2015 and applications for special event licences.

**MR NN MUNZHELELE**

**DIRECTOR GENERAL [ACTING]**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS**

**DATE:**

**MS AF MUTHAMBI (MP)**

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS**

**DATE**