Dear Sh. Julka,

Please refer to your D.O. letter No.104/103/2013-CRS dated 8th January, 2014, wherein TRAI has been requested to give its recommendations regarding the extension of permission of Community Radio Stations (CRS), whose Grant of Permission Agreements (GOPAs) have expired.

2. As you are aware, as per the TRAI Act, the Authority has to follow a public consultative process before giving its recommendations. Considering the importance of CRS in serving the local communities by providing relevant educational, developmental, social and cultural content, the Authority is of the view that, during the interim period, MIB may consider allowing the CRS permission holders, whose GOPAs have expired, to continue their operations on the existing terms and conditions subject to the following:

   a) The bank guarantees furnished by the CRS permission holders shall remain valid for the interim period.

   b) The CRS permission holders have paid due spectrum usage fee to WPC.

   c) The MIB shall take a suitable undertaking from CRS permission holders, whose validity of GOPA had expired, to ensure that once the final policy in this regard is laid down by the Government, these CRS permission holders will comply with that policy for the interim period.
also. Any financial obligations arising from the change in policy shall also be honoured.

3. As per the practice, a copy of this letter is being placed on the website of TRAI www.trai.gov.in.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Sudhi Gupta)

Shri Bimal Julka,
Secretary,
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting,
Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi - 110001