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Title: Regarding advertisements to Media House.

**SUSHRI MAHUA MOITRA (KRISHNANAGAR):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of this House to a very important topic. In December, 2018, the then Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Mr. Rathore said on the Floor of the House that the Government, from the years 2014 till December, 2018, had spent approximately Rs. 5,246 crores on advertising. This was only the Central Government's expenditure. It does not include public sector undertaking expenditure, which, I believe, forms the bulk of it. Given that this is the tax payers' money and what the PSUs are spending is also the tax payers' money, we need to have a better idea what the total advertising spending is. You can see, in 2014-15, it was Rs. 979 crores, which went up to about Rs. 1,300 crores in 2017-18. Five of the largest news media organisations in this country are either owned or indirectly debted to one person. He is the richest Indian. He is an associate who is on the Board of the largest telecom venture. News Nation, India TV, News 24, Network 18, NDTV are all owned....(*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri B. Manickam Tagore.

... (*Interruptions*)

**SUSHRI MAHUA MOITRA :** Let me finish, Sir. We want to know as to what is the breakup of the adspend via media houses and if certain print media are being excluded. This is very important.

