GOVERNMENT OF INDIA INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6079
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2001
REGISTRATION OF NEWSPAPERS
BHUPENDRASINH PRABHATSINH SOLANKI;MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARY

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the registration work in the office of Registrar of Newspapers is going on at a very slow pace;
- (b) if so, whether the Government would issue any guidelines to dispose of this work expeditiously;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of applications of the newspapers and magazines of Gujarati language received for registration during the last one year; and
- (e) the number of such newspapers and magazines registered and the number of remaining cases and the reasons for delay in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

- (a) No Sir. Title clearance is a continuous process and applications for registration of newspapers/periodicals, if complete in all respects, are cleared by the office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) expeditiously. In other cases, discrepancy letters are issued.
- (b) & (c): RNI has evolved internal guidelines, which inter-alia stipulate that applicationsfor registration, which are complete in all respect as per the requirements of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, should be registered within one month from the date of receipt of the application in the RNI office.
- (d) & (e): During the last one year (Calendar Year 2000), the office of the RNIreceived 511 applications for registration of the newspapers/periodicals published in Gujarati language. Out of these, 215 were registered during the aforesaid period and in the remaining 296 cases, discrepancy letters suggesting formalities yet to be completed and documents required to be annexed were issued to the respective publishers.