

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:579
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2000
ALLOCATION OF NEWSPRINT
SU THIRUNAVUKKARASAR

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

- (a) whether the small newspapers are demanding more and equitable allocation of newsprint;
- (b) if so, whether it is proposed to allocate adequate quantity of newsprint to small newspapers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT

(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

- (a): The small newspapers have been making such demands in meetings. This Ministry has not received any demand in writing.
- (b)&(c): The import of glazed/standard newsprint is permitted without an import license, subject to actual user condition, to those who hold a `Registration Certificate`, issued by the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) and on the submission of other necessary documentary evidence, including `Eligibility Certificate`, issued by the Registrar of Newspapers for India. To safeguard the interests of small and medium newspapers/periodicals whose annual requirement of newsprint is 200 MT or less, one-third quantity of the annual production of indigenous newsprint, of every scheduled newsprint mill, is reserved to meet the demand of small and medium newspapers/periodicals.
- (d) : Does not arise in view of reply to (b) & (c) above.