

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1557  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2003  
HOLDING OF FOREIGN EQUITY IN NDTV  
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

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

- (a) whether the New Delhi Television (NDTV) sought the permission of the Government for offering 14.35% stake to Mauritius based standard chartered private equity;
- (b) if so, whether the proposal of foreign direct investment of 26% in the equity of new entities for the media sector is in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the existing foreign equity holding in NDTV and the decision of the Government with regard to their proposal for further FDI of 14.35%?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (d) M/s. New Delhi Television Limited (NDTV) had approached Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) seeking approval for foreign equity investment of Rs.52,87,50,000 against issue of 34,28,387 equity shares of Rs.10 face value aggregating to 14.35% of post issue paid up capital of the company by Standard Chartered Private Equity (Mauritius) Limited.

FIPB Unit, Ministry of Finance has given the approval for foreign investment, subject to the following conditions:

- (i) The company conforms to the eligibility criteria as per the revised guidelines for uplinking of news and current affairs TV channels from India announced.
- (ii) Foreign investment upto 26% is permissible under the guidelines and the company is required to produce documentary evidence after shares, etc. are issued to establish that the shareholding pattern is in accordance with approval granted.
- (iii) The issue/valuation/transfer of shares shall be as per RBI/SEBI guidelines.

As informed by the company, the post issue Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the company is 25.96%.