GOVERNMENT OF INDIA INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7007 ANSWERED ON:12.05.2005 PUBLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE Singh Shri Ganesh Prasad

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

- (a) whether the Government has banned the publication of International Herald Tribune in India;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is aware that despite the ban, it is being published in India;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has taken any action in the matter;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRIS. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) to (e): The extant print media policy of the Government prohibits publication of any foreign newspapers or newsmagazines in India. In pursuance of this policy, no foreign newspapers or newsmagazines have been permitted to be published. However, this Ministry, in June 2004, on learning about the publication of an Indian edition of the `International Herald Tribune` from Hyderabad, by M/s Midram Publications Pvt Ltd, wrote to M/s Midram Publications to stop publication of the same, and to International Herald Tribune, Hong Kong and New York, to stop supply of material/contents for publication of the International Herald Tribune from Hyderabad as it violates the extant print media policy of the Government.

The Government is examining the options of strengthening its policy, through suitable legislative measures. For this purpose, a Group of Ministers (GOM) has been constituted.