

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:321
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2005
UPLINKING POLICY
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether the Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted to examine the proposal for review of Uplinking Policy has submitted its recommendations to the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government on the recommendations of GoM; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for the delay?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI)

(a) (b) & (c) : Yes, Sir. The proposal for review of Uplinking Policy was considered by the Group of Ministers (GoM), which has since furnished its recommendations. These recommendations were considered by the Cabinet on 20.10.2005, which approved, inter-alia, the following changes in the uplinking policy:

i) Apart from FDI, FII/NRI investment within the overall limit of 26% has been permitted, in the company desirous of uplinking a news & current affairs TV channel.

ii) In addition to "C" Band, uplinking in Ku Band has also been allowed, subject to certain safeguards.

iii) For live coverage of National and International events, all companies having TV broadcasting rights of these events, are required to share their feed with Prasar Bharti under a revenue sharing formula.

iv) Foreign News Channels/Agencies can be permitted temporary uplinking permission up to one year through a pre-designated teleport under certain conditions.

v) A processing/permission fee for all applicants has been introduced.

(d) : Does not arise.