

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1663
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2008
REGULATION FOR FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS
Murmu Shri Rupchand

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to allow publication of foreign news magazines in partnership with Indian promoters;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the limit on Foreign Direct Investment in Print media; and
- (d) the manner in which the interests of the domestic Newspaper/Print Media would be safeguarded in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Government has allowed the publication of Indian edition of foreign news magazines by Indian entity(ies), with or without foreign investment, subject to certain conditions. The detailed guidelines in this regard are available on the website of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (www.mib.nic.in).

(c): The limit on Foreign Direct Investment in Print media is as under:

News & Current Affairs Sector : 26%; and

Non-News & Non-Current Affairs Sector : 100%.

(d): The policy of allowing 26% foreign equity in Indian entities dealing with News and Current Affairs is already in vogue. The decision to allow publication of Indian edition of foreign news magazines is an extension of the existing policy of allowing Indian editions of foreign magazines in non News and non Current Affairs sector and hence it will not affect the interest of the domestic print media. Adequate safeguards are provided in the aforementioned guidelines.