

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2311
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009
FDI IN BROADCASTING SECTOR
Khairi Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to enhance the limit on foreign Direct Investment (FDI) for Direct-To-Home service and FM radio Broadcasting services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the manner in which the Government proposes to regulate these service providers/ broadcasters in the country in the event of raising FDI?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI)

(a), (b) and (c): Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in its various recommendations from time to time has raised the issue of divergent FDI limits for different sectors including the DTH services and FM Radio Broadcasting services, which currently stands at 20% in both these sectors.

TRAI has recommended a review of the foreign direct investment policy in holistic manner to bring about a greater degree of consistency in the rules for various segments within the broadcasting sector and also in view of the nature of convergence between telecommunication and broadcasting sectors. Based on the recommendations of TRAI the Government has initiated the process for review of the existing foreign direct investment norms in consultation with the concerned Ministries. The regulatory issues connected with raising of FDI levels will also be taken into account while making any changes.