GOVERNMENT OF INDIA INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1162 ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013 TRAI GUIDELINES FOR BROADCASTING SECTOR Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued guidelines for the broadcasting sector recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of the institutional mechanism to examine the recommendations of TRAI;

(c) whether the Union Government has set up an Inter-Ministerial Committee on the lines of the telecom commission to examine the recent recommendations made by TRAI advising against the entry of the Central and State Governments in the broadcasting sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

(a) to (d): In response to Ministry of Information and Broadcasting's reference dated 30.11.2012, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued its recommendations on 28.02.2012 regarding entry of Government Entities into broadcasting and distribution activities. The recommendations of TRAI are available on their official website – www.trai.gov.in.

The Ministry vide its Office Memorandum dated 03.01.2013, has recently constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee(IMC) under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to examine various recommendations of TRAI that relate to 'Broadcasting Sector' and give inputs before the appropriate competent authority takes policy decisions thereon. The Committee comprises of the representatives from various Ministries and Departments including Department of Telecommunication, Department of Information Technology, Department of Economic Affairs, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited (BECIL), Doordarshan and All India Radio. A copy of the Office Memorandum dated 03.01.2013 is available on the official website of the Ministry – www.mib.nic.in.