GOVERNMENT OF INDIA INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2080 ANSWERED ON:05.12.2014 FDI IN MEDIA INDUSTRY Biju Shri Parayamparanbil Kuttappan

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 media industry;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any consultations have been held with Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.))

(a) to (c): A proposal was received in this Ministry from the Ministry of Finance through Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) regarding enhancement of FDI caps in various sectors including broadcasting and print media for the comments of this Ministry. This Ministry had sought recommendations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) and Press Council of India (PCI) on the proposal relating to the broadcasting sector and print media respectively. TRAI has furnished its recommendations for the broadcasting sector on 22.08.2013 that are available on its website www.trai.gov.in. As regards print media, PCI has furnished its comments. A statement showing existing FDI limits, proposal of Ministry of Finance and TRAI/PCI's recommendations / comments with regard to various segments of broadcasting sector and print media is at Annexure. Review of FDI Policy is however a consistent and continuous process which may be reviewed from time to time.