

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2083  
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2014  
REGULATORY ACT FOR ELECTRONIC MEDIA  
Innocent Shri ;Muddahanumegowda Shri S.P.

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

- (a) the number of newspapers, magazines, FM Radio Stations and electronic media channels so far registered in the country along with readership and viewership, media-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any review/monitoring of the functioning of the media;
- (c) if so, the details of such monitoring/review conducted during each of the last three years and the current year, media-wise;
- (d) the number of newspapers and electronic media channels de-registered during the said period and the reasons therefor, media-wise;
- (e) whether the Government has received suggestions from the Press Council of India and other stakeholders to formulate a code of conduct for the print and the electronic media; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon so far?

**Answer**

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

(a) A total number of 99,660 publications, having different periodicities were registered with the Office of Registrar of Newspapers for India till 31.3.2014. Out of these, 19,755 publications, having different periodicities, filed annual statements claiming a circulation of 45,05,86,212 copies per publishing day.

At present, 243 private FM Radio Stations are functioning in the country under the Policy on expansion of FM Radio Broadcasting services through private agencies.

As regards Private Satellite TV Channels, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has given permission to 821 Channels under the Policy Guidelines of Uplinking/Downlinking of Television Channels, in India, in 2011.

However, the TV viewership data of Private TV Channels and listenership data of FM Radio Stations are not maintained in this Ministry.

(b) and (c) Press Council of India has last year reviewed the state of the Press for the year 2008-12. The detailed information are available in the following link:

[Presscouncil.nic.in/WriteReadData/Pdf/ReviewofthePressinIndia.pdf](http://Presscouncil.nic.in/WriteReadData/Pdf/ReviewofthePressinIndia.pdf).

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has not conducted any review/monitoring of the functioning of the electronic media.

(d) During the last three years and the current year, the number of publications de-registered are as under:

Year	No. of Publications de-registered
2011-12	13
2012-13	24
2013-14	49
2014-15	20

(upto 30.11.2014)

These publications were de-registered due to cancellation of declaration by concerned District Magistrates invoking Section 8B of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867 or due to ceasing of declaration filed by Owner/Publisher.

Total of 88 TV Channels have been cancelled during the last three years and the current year for various reasons, including surrender of permission, non-operationalization within stipulated time frame and non-compliance to terms and conditions of permission. The list

of cancelled TV channels along with the reasons for cancellation is placed at Annexure.

(e) and (f) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has not received any suggestion. However, the Press Council of India (PCI) in keeping with its mandate under Section 13(2)(b) of the Press Council Act, 1978, has already built up a code of conduct for formulating a code for the Print Media. The last edition of the same was brought out in 2010.