

(d) whether it is a fact that international prices of the letter quality news prints are much lower at FOB and EIF destination; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that the consumers are restricted from purchasing international newsprint not withstanding their capacity to pay foreign exchange from non-Government sources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Indigenous newsprint mills have increased the prices of newsprint on five occasions during the period from May, 1989 to May, 1992.

(b) Considering the prices of newsprint prevailing before May, 1989, the increases in the prices of newsprint have accounted for a price rise of about 64 per cent to 85 per cent. Reportedly, the burden of the price rise has been passed over to newspaper readers to some extent.

(c) The capacity of indigenous newsprint has been largely installed in the public sector where appreciably the capacity utilisation has been about 97 per cent.

(d) Generally, the prices of imported newsprint were on higher side vis-à-vis indigenous newsprint. However presently, the price of imported newsprint is relatively cheaper primarily due to glut in the international market which may not continue long.

(e) Import of newsprint has been decanalised w.e.f. 1-4-1992. As per the new Import Policy for Newsprint, the newspaper industry is allowed to import 1 kg. of newsprint for every 2 kg. of indigenously produced newsprint purchased by the newspaper industry.

Foreign investment in industrial sector

1559. **DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:**

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI:

SHRI RAM RATAN RAM:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised the plans to permit 100 per cent equity in foreign investment in industrial sector;

(b) whether any guidelines have been framed for such investment and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what safeguards have been provided for the healthy growth of the domestic sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) As

spelt out in the Statement on Industrial Policy tabled in both Houses of Parliament on 24th July, 1991, industries listed in Annex-III are eligible for automatic approval by the RBI for direct foreign investment upto 51 per cent provided the foreign equity covers foreign exchange requirement for imported capital goods. Other proposals for foreign investment outside the parameters for automatic clearance including proposals envisaging foreign investment of more than 51 per cent are also considered and cleared on merits by the Government. The facility of foreign equity investment upto 100 per cent in fully (100 per cent) exported oriented units is available. Further, NRIs and Overseas corporate bodies predominantly owned by them are also permitted upto 100 per cent foreign equity investment in high priority Annex-III industries. The facility of foreign equity investment upto 100 per cent is also available in power sector.

(c) The New Industrial Policy provides *inter alia*, for abolition of industrial licensing, removal of restrictions on investment under the MRTP Act, liberalisation of policy and procedures regarding transfer of foreign technology, import of capital goods and raw materials etc. These are expected to boost healthy growth of the domestic sector also.

समाचार पत्रों का पंजीकरण

1560. श्री ईश बल यादव : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान प्रत्येक वर्ष उत्तर प्रदेश से समाचार पत्रों के पंजीकरण के लिए कितने आवेदन प्राप्त हुए और उनका डिजेनर ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ख) उक्त अवधि के दौरान ऐसे कितने समाचार पत्रों का पंजीकरण किया गया ; और

(ग) शेष समाचार पत्रों की कब तक पंजीकृत कर दिया जायेगा ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (कुमारी गिरिजा व्यास) : भारत के समाचारपत्रों के पंजीक के कार्यालय के आंकड़ों के अनुसार पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान समाचारपत्रों के पंजीकरण के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश से प्राप्त आवेदन पत्रों की संख्या का ब्यौरा इस प्रकार है :—

वर्ष	आवेदनपत्रों की संख्या
1989	396
1990	351
1991	540

भारत के समाचारपत्रों के पंजीक के कार्यालय में जिला-वार सूचना नहीं रखी जाती ।

(ख) 1989 में 148, 1990 में 170 तथा 1991 में 326 समाचारपत्रों का पंजीकरण किया गया ।

(ग) समाचारपत्रों का पंजीकरण संबंधित प्रकाशक द्वारा प्रेस और पुस्तक रजिस्ट्रीकरण अधिनियम में निर्धारित औपचारिकताओं को पूरा करने पर ही किया जाता है । तथापि, अधिनियम में इसके लिए कोई समय-सीमा निर्धारित नहीं की गई है ।

Regional News Unit of AIR at Cuddapah

1561. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a Regional News Unit at Cuddapah AIR Station in Andhra Pradesh to cover the various activities in Rayalseema region of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A Part time Correspondent of All India Radio is posted at Cuddapah to cover the important events in the region.

Certification of Feature Films

1562. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian feature films certified U, UA and A during 1992;

(b) how many of them are rejected; and