

Monopoly of cable TV sector

1771. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has asked the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to suggest measures to check monopoly of cable TV sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry would clip the wings of certain players who are dominating in the Multi System Operators in various States;
- (d) whether any time-frame has been set for TRAI to submit the report; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI) : (a) to (e) The Ministry is seized of the issue of monopolistic practices in the various segments of broadcasting sector and accordingly a reference to the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) was made on 16.5.2012 to examine the entire gamut of media ownership issues. The Ministry has requested TRAI to provide recommendations on specific issues of vertical integration within the various segments in the Broadcasting Sector as in the present scenario more and more broadcasting companies owning television channels are venturing into various distribution platforms, namely cable TV distribution, DTH, and IPTV etc. and similarly many companies owning distribution platforms are also entering into television broadcasting. TRAI has also been asked to look into the issue of horizontal integration wherein companies have controls/ownerships across print, TV and Radio. TRAI recommendations are awaited. The Ministry is also in the process of making a reference to the TRAI to examine the spectre of alleged monopolistic practices in the distribution segment of the Broadcasting Sector.

TRP system

1772. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to examine the Television Rating Points (TRP) system in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;