

- (f) whether Government has taken action under law against the newspapers;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) if not, the reasons for compromising with sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) and (b) Government has come across an article published in the Mumbai edition of 'Navbharat Times' which had a distorted map of India. The depiction is not in conformity with Survey of India published maps.

(c) to (h) The newspaper has not issued any corrigendum so far. The matter has been brought to the notice of the Press Council of India and the Ministry of Home Affairs for taking necessary action in the matter.

Ownership rights of media

‡2235. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has given a responsibility to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to give suggestions on ownership rights of media in the country;
- (b) if so, the issues related to media ownership on which TRAI has to consider and give recommendations; and
- (c) the shortcomings and circumstances taken into consideration by Government while issuing the order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (c) Ministry has made a reference to the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 16th May 2012 on media ownership issues in the broadcasting sector. TRAI has been requested to examine the entire gamut of media ownership issues, and to provide recommendations on vertical as well as horizontal integration within the various segments in the Broadcasting Sector.

In the said reference, the Ministry requested TRAI to re-look at the following issues and make appropriate recommendations:

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- In the present emerging scenario more and more broadcasting companies owning television channels are venturing into various distribution platforms, namely Cable TV distribution, DTH and IPTV etc. Similarly many companies owning distribution platforms are also entering into television broadcasting. This type of vertical integration can seriously affect competition and promote monopolistic practices. Therefore, there is a need to address such vertical integration. TRAI may suggest measures that can be put in place to address vertical integration in order to ensure fair growth of the broadcasting sector.
- In another scenario companies have controls/ownerships across Print, TV and Radio leading to horizontal integration. At present there is no restriction for a company to have ownership across Radio, Television and Print mediums. Such a situation may prevent plurality of news and views and, in turn, may have several implications including ensuring quality services at reasonable prices. TRAI may also look at this issue and suggest appropriate measures in this regard.

National anthem in movie theatres

2236. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Anthem was sung in movie theatres and other programmes;
- (b) whether this practice, which has been discontinued, needs to be revived in all movie halls as this would create the feeling of nationalism; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARD): (a) to (c) Prints of films on National Anthem produced by Films Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting are distributed to cinema theatres on their request. The central government under the Cinematograph Act, 1952, certifies films for exhibition throughout the country. However, movie theatres are regulated by the license conditions of the respective state Governments. Short National Anthem films are screened in some states.