

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1713**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2018**

**RISE IN NEWSPRINT COST**

1713. SHRI RAM CHARITRA NISHAD:

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

- (a) whether the recent rise in newsprint cost could lower the operating margins of print media companies this fiscal by more than 400 basis point;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide all support to the print media to remain in force; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**{COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)}**

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has informed that paper sector falls under delicensed category of industries. As such the Government does not regulate or control the prices of Newsprint, which are dependent purely on market forces. No study has been done by Government to assess the impact of prices of newsprint on operating margins of print media companies.

(c) & (d) The proposals of print media sector for policy intervention of Government in various areas are taken up with concerned Ministries/ Departments from time to time, whenever so required.

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