GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1204 (TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.06.2019)

MEDIA OWNERSHIP

1204. SHRI MANISH TIWARI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that on August 12th, 2014 TRAI had made recommendations on issues with regard to media ownership, if so, the status of these recommendations;
- (b) whether the Government has accepted the said recommendations, if so, the details thereof along with the manner in which such recommendations have been dealt with in the past five years;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring any law/policy/notification to proscribe vertical and horizontal cross holdings in the media space, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to consider ownership of multiple content and content distribution platforms by a single entity or a group of companies going back to a single owner/entity as a threat to the plurality and diversity of the media space, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) : The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has furnished its recommendations on 12.08.2014 on 'Issues Relating to Media Ownership'. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting have deliberated the said recommendations in the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) set up to examine TRAI recommendations. The acceptance of the recommendations has multi dimensional implications which requires consultation with various stakeholders.

(c) & (d) : Presently no such proposal is under consideration.
