

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 870
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2021)**

FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO MEDIA HOUSE

870. SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE:

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

- a) Whether it is a fact that number of media houses have closed and many big houses have stopped their editions during last two years in the country due to unfolding COVID-19 catastrophe;**
- b) If so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;**
- c) Whether the Government has taken any steps to support the media houses including providing revival packages since 2019 onwards and;**
- d) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER
OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
{SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR }**

(a) and (b): Covid-19 has affected several sectors of the economy including media. In respect of private TV channels, Ministry has received requests for additional time for payment of fees and operationalization of the channels, while some channels have become non-operational. A few print publications have also become non-operational.

(c) and (d) : This Government had received representations for withdrawal of 10% Basic Custom Duty (BCD) on newsprint. Government has reduced the BCD on newsprint from 10% to 5%.
