

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2139
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2016**

HIGH LEVY FROM NEWSPAPERS

2139. SHRI Y.S. AVINASH REDDY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any representation from Press Council of India for its demand to collect higher levy as circulation fee from newspapers for its functioning;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the response of the Government thereon?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING [COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)]

(a) & (b): The Press Council of India in pursuance of Section 16 of Press Council Act, 1978, in its meeting held on 7th August 2015 resolved to amend Rule 10(1) of the Press Council Rules, 1979 to revise the rates of levy of fee. The Council in this respect prepared a draft notification and sent it to Government of India to notify in the Gazette of India. As per the notification, the circulation range of registered newspapers and periodicals shall be the latest circulation figures as available with the Registrar of Newspapers for India and the criteria for classification of news agencies shall be such as indicated in the Report of the Wage Board for Working Journalists.

(c): The Government concurred with the proposal of Press Council of India and notified 'Press Council (Amendment) Rules, 2016' vide GSR 466 (E) in Part-II, Section-3, Sub-section (i) of Gazette of India (Extraordinary) dated 28th April 2016 revising rates of fee to be levied on registered newspapers, periodicals and news agencies. The said notification is available on the website of Press Council of India i.e. www.presscouncil.nic.in (Home → Levy → Levy Fee Rates Enforce → Enhancement of Levy Fee Rates).
