

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1569  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2003  
FDI IN PRINT MEDIA  
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

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

- (a) whether any Foreign Direct Investment has been contracted or received in the Print Media;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government are also considering modifying its policy governing FDI in print media to make it mandatory for the new newspaper company to prove its financial adequacy first;
- (d) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the impact of these modifications on the foreign investment in print media?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (e): The primary objective of allowing Foreign Investment in Print Media, subject to certain restrictions, was to open a window for foreign collaboration rather than the quantum of foreign money that may be received and receivable. 14 applications for foreign collaboration have been cleared with the preferred mode being royalty payment rather than foreign direct investment. The scrutiny of the financial adequacy is implicit even in the existing guidelines since the largest Indian shareholder is required to hold at least 51% of the equity after excluding Public Financial Institutions.