

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 3237

ANSWERED ON: 15.03.2018

Growth of Print Media

RAJEEV SHANKARRAO SATAV

DHANANJAY BHIMRAO MAHADIK

HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT

Will the Minister of

INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING

be pleased to state:-

- a) Whether Indian Print Media including regional newspapers especially Marathi and Tamil have shown healthy growth in recent years and if so, the details of the number of newspaper published in the country including Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, State-wise;
- b) Whether the cases of fake news and alleged malpractices have been reported by certain regional newspapers in the recent years and if so, the details of such cases reported and action taken thereon during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu;
- c) Whether the Government has set up any statutory autonomous body to maintain and improve the standards of newspapers in the country and if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

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

(a) : The numbers of registered publication have been increasing. There is a similar trend for Marathi and Tamil Publications. Data showing growth rate of registered Newspapers and Periodicals in India as well as growth in Tamil and Marathi is given at Annexure.

(b) : Record of the cases of fake news and alleged mal-practices reported by regional news papers, is not maintained by the Government .

(2)

(c): To preserve the freedom of the press and to maintain and improve the standards of newspapers and news agencies in India and to inculcate principles of self-regulation among the press, the Government of India under the Press Council Act, 1978 has set up Press Council of India (PCI), an autonomous, statutory, quasi -Judicial authority. In furtherance of its objectives, the PCI, under Section 13(2) of the Act has formulated "Norms of Journalistic Conduct". The Council takes cognizance, suo-motu or on complaints, of the contents in print media which are in violation of the "Norms of Journalistic Conduct. As per Section 14 of the Act, the Council, after holding an inquiry, may warn, admonish or censure the newspaper, the news agency, the editor or the journalist or disapprove the conduct of the editor or the journalist as the case may be.
