Dear Shri Julka,

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) vide its letter no. 9/9/2012-BP&L dated 16th May, 2012, had requested TRAI to re-look the issue of vertical integration in the broadcasting and TV distribution sector and cross media holdings across the TV, Print & Radio sectors. MIB had requested TRAI to suggest measures that can be put to address vertical integration in order to ensure fair growth of the broadcasting sector. Further, TRAI has been requested to suggest measures with respect to cross media ownerships with an objective to ensure plurality of news and views and availability of quality services at reasonable prices to the consumers. MIB had sought TRAI’s recommendations under section 11(1) (a) (ii) and (iv) of the TRAI Act, 1997, as amended.

2. In this connection, TRAI had issued a consultation paper on ‘Issues relating to Media Ownership’ on 15th February 2013, seeking comments/views/counter-comments of the stakeholders. Subsequently, TRAI held five Open House Discussions, at Ahmedabad, New Delhi, Hyderabad, Bhubaneswar, and Indore, with all the stakeholders.

3. Based on the comments of the stakeholders received during the above-mentioned consultation process and its own analysis, the Authority has finalized its recommendations on “Issues relating to Media Ownership”.

4. In keeping with the practice, a copy of this letter, along with the recommendations, is being placed on the website of TRAI www.trai.gov.in.

Yours sincerely,

(Sudhir Gupta)

Encl: As above

Shri Bimal Julka
Secretary
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
'A' Wing, Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi – 110 001.