

No. 1403/31/2013-TV (I)
Government of India
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
'A' Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

Dated: 25th June, 2014

Advisory

Attention is drawn to the Reserve Bank of India Circular No.20 RBI/2004-05/234 dated 25.10.2004 wherein Authorised Dealer (AD) banks have been apprised that proposals for remittance of hiring charges of transponders by TV channels would require prior approval of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. The circular also stressed on the authorised dealer banks to bring the contents of the circular to the notice of their constituents and customers for ensuring compliance of the provision of the foreign exchange management ACT (FEMA), 1999.

It has come to the notice of the Ministry that some Broadcast Companies and Teleport Operators have obtained permission for services of foreign satellites, however these entities have not taken the prior approval of the Ministry of I & B for remittance of hiring charges in foreign exchange which is mandatory as per the gazette notification of the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs dated 13.09.2004 where the Ministry of I&B is the administrative Ministry for granting permission to remittance of Forex for hiring charges of transponders on foreign satellites by TV channels/ Teleports.

Through this advisory, the Ministry reiterates the need and importance for seeking prior approval of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for making payments in foreign exchange towards hiring of transponders of foreign satellites and complying with the existing provisions of the Reserve Bank of India in this regard.

In view of the foregoing all Broadcast Companies and Teleport Operators are hereby advised to strictly follow the guidelines under the provisions of the FEMA Act 1999 as enunciated by RBI. Any proposal seeking approval of M/o I&B should be submitted to the Ministry atleast 30 days in advance i.e. date before which the payment is due.


(Supriya Sahu)
Joint Secretary