

***“Rethinking Media Policies in India: Reviewing Guidelines for News Operations of Foreign News Agencies”*. Sponsored by RRTD, M/o I&B. 2011-12.**

In order to provide a timely news and in-depth coverage, the world-wide trend is to work in association with the local or regional news agencies who also source a large part of foreign news from news agencies. Foreign news agencies were allowed to operate in India with limited scope through 1956 Cabinet Decision on *Communication Facilities for News Agencies* that restricted direct supply of foreign news to Indian newspapers to prevent, monopoly in the supply of news by foreign establishment and biased reporting of any type. The decision served as the yardstick to evaluate and regulate the operation of foreign news agencies in India. In 2003 the relevance of such policy was reviewed in the context of advent of new media technologies which have radically changed the access to information. The study aimed to see how an operational or regulatory cap could affect the Indian press, news agencies and their scope of operations in the global news transmission. The study analyzed the current media scene in India with respect to media policies, FNAs’ presence and the growth in the Indian media and relevance of such an exchange mechanism in news environment where information from any part of the world is available at the click of a button.


