National Cable & Telecommunications Association



BY SPEED POST AD

To

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India 7 Race Course Road New Delhi -1100 01

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India **Prime Minister's Office** South Block, Raisina Hill New Delhi-1100 11

Respected Hon'ble Sir,

I am really pained to write this letter to your office when the entire country is facing issues of rampant corruption, deterioration of social values and a complete collapse in the system of governance, the few issues that have come in the notice are so much disheartening for the people who use to feel proud being an Indian and have been making all efforts to have an honest way of livelihood and been fulfilling all duties and obligations as a citizen of this country.

This period we all are witnessing today is the worst time of living and doing business in this country where we see all around us corruption at all levels, blatant misuse of power, violation of all rules and legislations with no fear of being questioned for your acts, leave aside the chances of being caught and prosecuted under the law.

Here I would like to briefly enumerate few observations made that will eventually have serious ramification effecting millions of consumers / citizens, investors, entrepreneurs, businesses and the whole nation will be badly affected, if still we keep silent and don't make any serious efforts to rectify and remedy the deliberate mistakes / violations made by the people who are answerable to the nation and carry a responsibility over their heads to look into the interest of the public at large.

I would have made this following revelations to the concerned departments in question who have till now failed to do their entrusted jobs like Income Tax, SEBI, TDSAT, Competition Commission of India, TRAI "Telecom Regulatory Authority of India" and even officials of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, but as the system prevails nowadays The officers of these concerned departments would have found another opportunity to make good money where based on my complaint/ Information the concerned company or the individual would have been summoned and some deal made in exchange of monetary benefits to close the matter without any further investigation being conducted. "Unfortunately this is the true picture and the state of affairs in our Country today"



The reason I am forced to write to the Head of the Nation, who I feel is most honest, and have been very instrumental and respected for the able Governance delivered so far and most probably not aware of how things are developing today that will have ramifications effecting each and every citizen of this country eventually.

In my ultimate effort of seriously hoping that your kind office will intervene and look into this matter on priority before it gets too late. I am herein stating all the facts of the matter and where the concerned departments have failed to act upon for reasons best known to them.

1. Amazing Indians continue to amass wealth by cheating the system and the poor investors.

A bunch of employees headed by their leader Mr. S.N Sharma employed by a MSO Hathway Cable & Datacom Limited left the company along with all the employees working under him in Delhi, collaborated an idea with another employee Mr. Sameer Manchanda CFO of TV 18 Network at that time. S.N Sharma asked Mr. Sameer Manchanda to float a public limited company where he will play an important role of getting the Hathway cable operators and independent MSOs to sign some understanding and create fake valuations for the company by misrepresenting the customer base and then based on these fake asset valuations and misrepresenting in the financial statement / documents of the newly incorporated company DEN "Digital Entertainment Network Limited" the company misrepresenting about their association with the TV 18 Network Group, brings out an IPO and collected billions of rupees from the Indian public investors. With all this Indian public investor money collected they contacted the CEO of Star TV Mr. Uday Shankar and asked him to give all the rights for the STAR TV channels for distribution to them on a fixed minimum guarantee of about 1000 Crores per year, that gave an advantage to this new entity where they forced many Hathway affiliated operators and the independent MSO and Cable operators to join with them otherwise the STAR TV channels will not be provided to their networks for redistribution to their customers. In this entire business operation been conducted over a period of last 3-4 years now Mr. S.N Sharma has amassed personal wealth of around Rs.3500 Crores with properties, Farm Houses, investment in real estate business here in India and abroad. Where he been collecting cash from the various cable operators in the country to the tune of almost Rs. 80-100 crores per month while under declaring lesser number of operators and customers to the company that has public investor investments. Even till recently when the Cable TV digitization law was implemented This Company DEN Limited ordered and imported millions of digital STB (Set Top Boxes) from the money collected on the IPO whereas these STBs where distributed to the customers only insisting a cash payment of Rs. 800- 1000 for each STB and all the cash collected (almost Rs. 150 crore from just Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkotta where digitization was implemented under Phase-I) was siphon off by Mr. S.N Sharma and the promoters of M/s. Digital Entertainment Network Limited. The records and financial statements will again be manipulated; the poor public investors of the said company will remain as they are, while the promoters and the employee's of this company are having an amazing time of their life. WEREAS, THE INCOME TAX, SEBI, DIRECTORATE OF REVENUE INTELLIGENCE & ENFORECEMENT DIRECTORATE WILL JUST REMAIN MUTE SPECTATORS.



2. The Mega Media Merger of STAR DEN and ZEE TURNER

After closely watching the success story of STAR TV after its association with DEN that had increased the subscription revenues of STAR TV Group by more than double each year The erstwhile ZEE Turner Private limited was approached by the STAR TV CEO Mr. Uday Shankar, while Mr. Rupert Murdoch company was facing problems in UK amidst lot of controversies there.

Here STAR DEN and ZEE TURER decides to form a joint venture in order to take advantage of this absolute monopoly being created with joint distribution of their TV channels and to also give undue advantage to their own TV Channel distribution platforms like TATA SKY and DISH TV the DTH operators and their own MSO Cable TV companies WWIL "Siti Cable" and DEN " Digital Entertainment Network Limited" that have pan India presence. When this joint mega merger " Media Pro Enterprise India Pvt Ltd" was formed in mid 2011 a suo moto enquiry was initiated and conducted by the CCI "Competition Commission of India" as they must have realised that this merger is anti competitive and will result in a complete vertical monopolization of this TV Channel distribution business. But somehow after almost an year of enquiry being conducted by CCI the commission gives a clean chit to this mega media merger Where they have blatantly ignored that this merger has resulted in complete monopolisation of services in many cities where the Cable TV service is being only provided by one single MSO in absolute monopoly and due to getting the undue advantage of being affiliated to this joint venture M/s Media Pro Enterprise India Pvt Ltd. Is In a monopoly situation where they have been actively misusing their dominant position to indulge in anti competitive practices and to further create complete monopoly on the distribution of Cable TV service and programming to the end consumers,

They have given preferential pricing on fixed subscriber deals entered with their own partner Cable TV MSOs, and the DTH operators who are at the moment misusing this preferential facility extended to them by offering all the pay TV channels at Rs. 100 to the consumers under the digitisation of the cable TV law on the STB (Set top Boxes) procured from the public investors money or otherwise lower rates in other cities or not providing their distributed 70 odd popular pay TV channel content to the competing MSOs service providers in order to finish the competition and the competitors business and once they have been successful in eliminating the competitors they will again misuse their monopoly been created at the behest of this joint venture to further milk the ignorant consumers / citizens of this country.

WHEREAS "CCI" COMPETITION COMMISSION OF INDIA gives a clean chit to this merger of Mr. Rupert Murdoch owned STAR TV Group, Mr, Subhash Chandra owned ZEE TV Group and Turner, Time Warner Group along with the Cable TV Distribution Company "DEN" that's been mentioned about in detail earlier in this letter, without even getting in the details as to how this merger is anti competitive and will result in creating a complete media monopoly, eventually that will bear unfavourable consequences for the country and its citizens.



WHEREAS "TRAI" TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA deliberately for reasons best known to them, don't fix any tariff or rates or a maximum retail price for the popular pay TV channels that are being watched by the Indian public for last many years now and deliberately the pricing has been kept in forbearance and regulations been made, in order to commercially make business very profitable specially for the above mentioned joint venture.

WHEREAS "TDSAT" This may come to you as a surprise, that the tribunal TDSAT "Telecom Disputes Settlement & Appellate Tribunal" which is a specialized tribunal for dispute redress all between industry stake holders and to appeal against any regulation or tariff order passed by the industry regulator, but it has been observed that lately the tribunal has only passed judgements / orders in favour of the pay TV broadcasters / channel aggregators as above, and their affiliated distribution platforms while Hon'ble Retd. Justice S.B Sinha has been the Chairman of this tribunal and since last 3 months the tribunal is been hearing matters and passing orders without the Chairman and the complete quorum on the bench. (The financial magnitude of the matters being heard at this tribunal range from few to hundred of crores)

WHEREAS "MIB" While all this is been happening The officials of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting have been keeping busy to frame rules under amendment to Act and law that will favour certain big players and will help them eliminate the ongoing healthy competition and to also make business more profitable for these DTH operators and MSOs that are affiliated to this Joint Venture M/s Media Pro Enterprise. Where already tainted people like Mr. Yogendra Pal [Former Addl DG, All India Radio] has been appointed as Advisor - M/o Information & Broadcasting to do the needful, left so far.

Thanking you in anticipation of some long waited reforms in the interest of the people of this country and strict action that may prove a deterrent for the future

Yours truly

4th January 2013

Vikki Choudhry President –NCTA

Mobile # +91 9811144467

Email: vikki@ncta.in



SP-POD LAJPAT NAGAR (118024)

EIDBO7344387JN
Counter No:2.OP-Code:TCM
To:THE HOMBIE PM.BOVI OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, PIN:116661
From:NCTA, ND
Wt:36grams,
Amt:26.06 (LFse:Rs.8.88), 07/01/2013 18:23
Taxes:Rs.3.06((Track on www.indiagost.gov.to))



SP-POD LAJPAT NAGAS (118024)
ETD BOZZ 44395 IN
Counter No:2.OP-Code:TCM
To:THE HONRIE PM.7 RSCE COURSE R
NEW DELHI, PIN:(10001
From:NETA , ND
Wt:30grams,
Amt:28.00 (LFee:Rs.0.00), 07/01/2013 18:23
3.00((Track on www.indianost.gov.in))

O Corner