

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3698  
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010  
CHANNELS ON PRIVATE DTH PLATFORM  
Singh Shri Ijyaraj ;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

**Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government/ Doordarshan has allowed private Direct to Home (DTH) Service operators to telecast its free to air channels;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the said operators are charging money from the customers for viewing the said channels;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. JATUA)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. The clause 7.8 of the terms and conditions of license agreement for DTH Broadcast Service has provided that "The licensee shall carry or include in his DTH Service the TV channels which have been notified for mandatory & compulsory carriage as per the provisions of Section 8 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 as amended, except for the regional TV channels, failing which licensor shall be at liberty to take action as per clause 20.1 of this Agreement.

Provided further that the licensee shall carry other channels of Prasar Bharati not covered under this clause, on most favourable financial terms offered to any other channel".

(c)& (d): In DTH Service, all TV channels, whether Free-to-Air or Pay, are receivable through a Set Top Box only. The TV Channels, both Free to Air and Pay, are encrypted and distributed directly to the subscribers through satellite, by DTH operator. In doing so the DTH operator incurs expenditure for providing TV channels to subscribers. Generally in subscription packages offered by DTH operators there are both Free to Air and Pay channels.

(e) : Does not arise.