

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1541
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2011
PERMISSION FOR NEW TV CHANNELS
Virendra Kumar Shri

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to permit operation of new TV channels in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of proposals received by the Government to operate new channels, so far;
- (c) the present status of such proposals;
- (d) the number of proposals which are still pending with the Government alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be cleared?

Answer

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

- (a) Grant of permission for new TV channels by Ministry is an ongoing process as per Policy Guidelines for Uplinking and Downlinking.
- (b), (c) & (d) This Ministry has permitted 732 channels till 31-07-2011. 368 proposals for new channels are under process as on 31-07-2011. Permissions are issued by the Ministry after obtaining clearances from Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Space and Department of Revenue as the case may be. Only after obtaining all the necessary clearances permissions are issued. All under process cases are in various stages of inter-ministerial consultation.
- (e) It is not possible to indicate a time frame for approval of pending proposals as approvals can be granted only after getting necessary Inter-Ministerial clearances.