

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4035
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2012
FUNCTIONING OF TV CHANNELS
Ray Shri Saugata

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

- (a) the number of news and entertainment TV channels being operated/functioning in the country, separately and the number of requests/proposals received seeking permission to operate such new channels including downlinking in the country along with the number of requests cleared/still pending with the Government during each of the last three years and the current year, category-wise;
- (b) the time by which the pending proposal are likely to be cleared; and
- (c) the details of channels operating under the domestic and foreign ownership?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI)

(a) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has permitted 410 News & Current Affairs and 438 Non-News & Current Affairs channels as on date. The number of requests cleared during each of the last three years and the current year, category-wise are following:

Year Permitted
News Non-News

2009	34	46
2010	40	58
2011	117	107
2012	9	27

165 proposals are at various stages of Inter-Ministerial clearances.

(b) As per the Uplinking & downlinking guidelines issued by the Ministry, the applications received for the grant of Uplinking/downlinking permissions are referred to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Space, Department of Revenue and Ministry of External Affairs for necessary clearances. As such no time frame can be given for the clearance of pending proposals.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.