

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6529

ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013

DTH SERVICES

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide Direct-to-Home Services of Doordarshan as well as private companies across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which all the areas of the country are likely to be covered by the said services;
- (c) whether the Prasar Bharati has effected a steep increase in the licence fee for the private television channels for inclusion in Doordarshan's DTH platform;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) the details of all private news and entertainment channels which have discontinued participation in Doordarshan's DTH platform and those which have come on to the platform, after the hike of licence fee ; and
- (f) the details of popular private news and entertainment channels in Doordarshan's DTH platform which have declined recently and the reasons therefor along with the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) and(b): Prasar Bharati has informed that, Doordarshan is already providing free-to-air Direct-to-Home (DTH) (Ku-band) Service "DD Direct Plus" since 2004. Its signals can be received anywhere in the country (except A&N Islands) with the help of small sized dish receive unit. For A&N Islands, DD's DTH service in C-band is in operation. As on date, the Government has issued licenses to six different private players for providing DTH Services on pan India basis.

The details of these DTH players are as under:

(1) M/s Tata SKY Limited (2) M/s Dish TV India Limited, (3) M/s Bharat Business Channel Limited, (4) M/s Sun Direct TV Private Limited,(5) M/s Bharati Telemedia Limited, (6) M/s Reliance BIG TV Limited.

(c) and (d): Prasar Bharati has started conducting e-auction to ensure transparency as well as maximisation of Public Revenue. The price is determined by a transparent, market driven process.

(e): The following channels have discontinued their services on DD-Direct Plus after introduction of e-Auction:

1) S.V. Bhakati 2) Amrita 3) Total TV 4) Mahuaa 5) Jai Hind 6) Kairali 7) Kaliagnar 8) E-24 9) ABN Andhra Jyothi 10) MH-One 11) News Live 12) IBN Lokmat 13) Music India 14) Pragya 15) RK News 16) PTC News 17) Care-world 18) Shraddha TV 19) Sahara Firangi 20) Zee Salaam.

The following Channels have joined DD-Direct Plus after introduction of e-Auction: 1) Zee 9X 2) Kaatyayani 3) Aalmi Sahara 4) Aastha Channel 5) Divya 6) News X 7) Shri News Channel 8) Sahara Samay National 9) What's On India 10) B4U Movies 11) B4U Music 12) India News 13) Zee Jagran 14) Zee ETC Bollywood 15) Zee Smile 16) Dangal 17) Enterr-10 Music 18) Aastha Bhajan 19) Disha 20) News Express 21) News- 24 22) Sadhna National 23) Chardikla Time TV 24) Mangal Kalash 25) Star Utsav 26) P-7 News 27) 9XM 28) Cinema TV 29) Sanskar 30) Day & Night News 31) TV-24 News 32) News Nation.

(f): Doordarshan is taking a series of initiatives to increase the popularity of DD-Direct Plus by increasing the number of channels to approx. 100, encouraging better marketing and after sales services and encouraging popular channels to join the platform by offering favorable terms.