

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1974

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2009

NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT CHANNELS

Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

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

- (a) the criteria laid down for starting a new channel;
- (b) the number of news and entertainment channels granted permission to telecast their programmes during each of the last three years and the current year, Channel-wise;
- (c) whether there has been a large demand for setting up of new entertainment and news channels; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) : Detailed eligibility criteria and other requirements for private satellite TV channels have been prescribed in the Guidelines for Uplinking from India and Policy Guidelines for Downlinking of Television Channels. These guidelines are available on the Ministry's website at <http://www.mib.nic.in>.

(b) : As on date, 512 private satellite TV channels have been permitted under uplinking and downlinking guidelines. Out of this, 485 TV channels have been permitted to downlink in India. Year-wise details of channels is given below:

Years Number of channels

2006	39
2007	74
2008	160
2009	76

Entire list of permitted channels is enclosed in Annexure.

(c) : Yes Sir. Many applications have been received for permission for new channels.

(d) : As on date, 151 applications are pending for permission to uplink from India and 14 applications are pending for permission to downlink in India.