

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2448

ANSWERED ON:06.02.2014

GUIDELINES FOR OPERATION OF TV CHANNELS

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

- (a) the number of news, entertainment, religious, sports and health television channels operating in the country and the number of applications pending for launching of new channels along with the license fee and terms and conditions for such channels;
- (b) whether only guidelines have been prepared regarding the operation of television channels and no law has been laid down in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details in this regard;
- (d) the details of complaints received by the Government on violation of the said guidelines during the last three years and the current year and the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) the extent to which the said guidelines have been successful in controlling the arbitrary functioning of television channels; and
- (f) the efforts made by the Government to formulate laws in regard to operation of television channels?

**Answer**

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

a) to (f) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting grants permission for Non-News & Current Affairs and News & Current Affairs TV channels in accordance with the Policy Guidelines for Uplinking/Downlinking of Satellite TV channels. All TV Channels are mandated to comply with the Programme and Advertising Codes as prescribed in the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. As on date Ministry has permitted 389 News & Current Affairs and 398 Non-News & Current Affairs TV channels. Applications for 243 new channels are at various stages of clearances in consultation with various Departments/Ministries.

Permission holder companies are reviewed from time to time for compliances of Uplinking and Downlinking Guidelines and action is taken whenever such violations of Guidelines are brought to the notice of the Government.