

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:80
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2015
Mandatory Telecast of Doordarshan Channels
Gaikwad Dr. Sunil Baliram;Udhayakumar Shri M.

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

- (a) the details of mandatory Doordarshan channels required to be telecast by Multi System Operators (MSO)/Cable Operators in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has received complaints against MSO and Cable Operators for not following mandatory regulations;
- (c) if so, the details and action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the further steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that mandatory Doordarshan channels are aired by MSO/Cable Operators?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS; AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 80 FOR ANSWER ON 24.7.2015.

(a) As per notification No.SO 2693 (E) dated 6th September 2013 and subsequent amendment No. SO 1388 (E) dated 25th May 2015 issued by this Ministry, it is mandatory for all Multi System Operators (MSOs) and Local Cable Operators (LCOs) to carry 25 Channels, which includes 22 Doordarshan Channels, Lok Sabha Channel, Rajya Sabha Channel and Gyan Darshan Channel, in DAS (Digital Addressable Systems) notified areas (Details in Annex-'A') and 10 Channels in non-DAS areas (Details in Annex -'B').

(b) to (d) As per Section 11 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, the authorised officers i.e. District Magistrate, or a Sub-divisional Magistrate, or a Commissioner of Police, within his local limits of jurisdiction have powers to take action for non-carriage of the mandatory channels by cable operators on their networks. Therefore, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting does not have any record of such complaints received by the authorised officers.

It was brought to the notice of the Ministry that some MSOs were not carrying some of the mandatory channels. The Ministry had, therefore, written to all concerned registered MSOs for DAS notified areas to carry the mandatory channels on their networks. An Advisory was also issued in June, 2015 to all the defaulting LCOs/MSOs in DAS and Non-DAS areas to carry the mandatory channels as notified by the Ministry since non-carriage of these channels shall attract action /punishment under Sections 11 and 18 of the Cable Act.
