

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2118
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2014
BAN ON CHANNELS
Reddy Shri Midhun

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the ban of some channels by some State Governments including Telangana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State/UT-wise including Telangana; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to remove such ban in various States particularly in Telangana State?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.))

(a) to (c) it has come to the notice of this Ministry that TV 9 and ABN Andhra Jyoti TV channel have been banned in the Telangana from 16.06.2014. The matter was taken up with the State immediately. As per Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules 1994, Multi System Operators are granted permission by the Ministry to operate in DAS notified areas under certain terms and conditions. If, the MSO's in DAS notified areas violate any of the terms and conditions, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting can suspend or revoke the registration of MSO's under Section 4(7) of the Cable Act. The Ministry has accordingly issued Show Cause Notices to the MSO's who violated the provisions of Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules 1994 by not transmitting the ABN Andhra Jyoti and TV-9 channels. While the response received from the MSO's were under examination, ABN Andhra Jyoti filed a writ petition in the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh. The writ petition has been dismissed by the Hon'ble Court. TV-9 channel also filed a petition in the Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) against M/s SITI Vision P. Ltd., a MSO. TDSAT has passed order in favor of TV-9 channel on 29.9.2014. In pursuance of the order, Ministry has directed M/s. Siti Vision P. Ltd. and Hathway Cable to resume transmission of the channel with immediate effect while asking the State Administration of Andhra Pradesh to ensure safety and security of M/s SITI Vision P. Ltd.