

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 184  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2022)**

**SECURITY CLEARANCE OF TV CHANNELS**

**\*184. SHRI GAURAV GOGOI  
SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI**

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

(a) whether the Government is authorized to impose broadcast bans on media channels/TV channels and if so, whether the Government has outlined any policy for barring media channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for which security clearance of TV channels is withheld;

(c) the number of TV News channels/TV channels imposed broadcasting bans since 2019 alongwith the reasons therefor and the duration for which they were banned each time;

(d) whether the Government recognises that the arbitrary suspension of news channels without adequate reasons is a violation of Article 19 of the Constitution; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the redressal mechanism put in place to hear the grievances of the channels?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF  
YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS  
{ SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR }**

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA  
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(a) All private satellite TV channels granted permission by the Ministry under the Uplinking and Downlinking Guidelines, 2011 are required to adhere to the terms and conditions of such permission including adherence to the Programme Code and Advertisement Code and other provisions laid down under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995.

(b) Grant of permission to a satellite TV channel under the Uplinking and Downlinking Guidelines is subject to security clearance by the Ministry of Home Affairs as per the procedure laid down by it.

(c) The Ministry grants permission for operating a satellite TV channel under the Uplinking and Downlinking Guidelines, 2011. The Ministry takes action against television channels for violation of the terms and conditions of the permission and for violation of the Programme Code. Since 2019, the Ministry has taken action of prohibiting transmission for varying time periods in respect of 15 TV channels for various violations under the Uplinking/Downlinking Guidelines and of the Programme Code.

(d)& (e): The Government follows the due process of law and the laid down procedure before taking a decision to suspend/prohibit a channel. Grievances of channels relating to Uplinking/Downlinking Guidelines are addressed by the Ministry.

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