

provisions of clause 2.1 of DTH guidelines, the validity of license shall be ten (10) years, on non-exclusive basis, and shall be reckoned from the date of issue of Wireless Operational License by the Wireless Planning and Coordination wing of Ministry of Communication. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in its recommendations dated 23.07.2014 on “Issues related to New DTH Licenses” has *inter-alia*, recommended that the new licensing regime for DTH license should be for a period of 20 years and once the Government notifies the new DTH licensing regime, the existing DTH operators shall be allowed to migrate to the new regime at any time during the currency of their existing license. These recommendations are available at TRAI’s website: <http://www.trai.gov.in>. All such matters are looked at as part of policy making process from time-to-time.

Illegal telecast of foreign channels

3464. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of TV channels of foreign origin which are down-linked legally in the country;
- (b) whether the security agencies have identified certain illegal foreign channels, the contents of which is not conducive to the security environment of the country and has posed a potential security hazard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the concrete steps taken by Government to address the problem of illegal telecast of foreign channels and also to discourage cable operators for transmitting such illegal channels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) There are 93 private satellite TV channels which are Uplinked from outside India and have been granted permission to downlink in India under the policy guidelines for Downlinking of Television Channels.

(b) to (d) The Ministry had been informed by security agencies about carriage of some unregistered foreign channels by cable operators. To address the problem of carriage of unregistered channels by cable operators, the Ministry had introduced a Bill, namely, the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Second Amendment Bill, 2011 in Lok Sabha on 15 December, 2011. The said Bill was subsequently referred to the

Standing Committee on Information Technology. The Committee, in its 36th report, *inter alia*, observed that the requirement of amending legislation may not be feasible in view of the ongoing process of digitization of Cable network as digitization can provide solution to address the issue of showing illegal/unregistered channels on the cable networks.

The cable operators are regulated under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, The scheme of enforcement envisaged under this Act is primarily through the authorized officers who are district magistrate, sub divisional magistrate and the commissioner of police of the State Governments. Whenever a complaint is brought to the notice of the Ministry, they are sent to the authorized officers since the action as per the Act primarily remains in the domain of authorized officers.

Collaboration of DD with private channels

3465. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Doordarshan (DD) has entered into any collaboration with private television channels;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, region-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to make DD more competitive in comparison to private television channels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (c) Prasara Bharati has informed that Doordarshan has currently entered into collaboration with Epic Channel for sourcing high quality software for simulcast of new shows/programmes.

Earlier similar arrangements were made with Star TV for “Satyamev Jayate” and “Saraswatichandra” and Zee TV for “Ramayana” and “Buddha”.

Prasara Bharati has informed that Doordarshan has introduced several new programmes in the mid-prime time and prime time band of DD National and stepped up efforts for promotions and publicity including the use of Social Media to enhance the viewers profile of DD National.

Doordarshan has made all efforts to ensure telecast of high quality and good wholesome entertainment programmes.