

**DTH service of Doordarshan**

247. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) how many households are currently using DTH platform of Doordarshan (DD), which make available free channels to view, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is demand to make available DTH services of Doordarshan to telecast pay channels;
- (c) if so, whether Government is seriously considering the demand and by when it will be made available; and
- (d) if not, the details of the reasons for not accepting the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that as per the industry estimates, DD Free Dish has reached about 20-30 million homes with 80 TV Channels and 32 Radio Channels. [*Source*: KPMG-FICCI (Klynveld Peat Marwick Goerdeler - Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry) Indian Media and Entertainment Industry Report, 2016].

There is no restriction on any channel for obtaining slot on DD Free Dish through e-auction as DD Free Dish Platform is Free-to-Air and no subscription is charged by Doordarshan from viewers. However, in the e-auction held so far by Doordarshan no pay channels have participated.

**Radio stations in India**

248. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Radio stations in India and the number of users, the details thereof, State-wise and station-wise;
- (b) whether media AIR is not popular, if so, the steps taken by the Government to do radio popular; and
- (c) whether radios are not available in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that as on date All India Radio has 419 Radio stations and 608 Transmitters