

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2939
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2021)**

REVISION IN GUIDELINES FOR DTH

2939. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

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

- (a) whether Government has recently approved revision in guidelines for providing Direct to Home (DTH) services in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether DTH industry and cable TV are at a parity with respect to license fee; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE;
MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF
HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAKASH
JAVADEKAR)**

(a) & (b): Yes sir. The revised guidelines for providing DTH Services in India has been issued on 30th December, 2020. The major amendments are as under:

- (i) License for the DTH should be issued for a period of 20 years. The period of License may be renewed by 10 years at a time.
- (ii) Annual License fee to be charged @ 8% of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR).
- (iii) The License fee is to be paid on quarterly basis.

(iv) The licensor will have the right to modify the license fee as a fixed percentage of AGR during the validity of license period.

(v) Bank Guarantee will be for an amount equivalent to the estimated sum payable, equivalent to License Fee for two quarters and other dues not otherwise securitized. For new entrants, a Bank Guarantee for a fixed amount of Rs.5 crore shall be taken for the first two quarters, and thereafter, for an amount equivalent to estimated sum payable, equivalent to Licence Fee for two quarters and other dues not otherwise securitized.

(vi) The DTH operators may be permitted to operate Platform Services (PS) channels, DTH operators' own channels exclusively available to their subscribers, to a maximum of 5% of its total channel carrying capacity. A one-time non-refundable registration fee of ₹ 10,000 per PS channel shall be charged from the DTH operator.

(vii) DTH operators willing to share DTH platform and transport stream of TV channels, on voluntary basis should be allowed to do so. The common hardware for their Subscriber Management System (SMS) and Conditional Access System (CAS) applications may also be shared.

(viii) The FDI policy of Government of India shall be followed as notified from time to time.

(c): No Sir.

(d): Does not arise.
