

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.242
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.02.2022)**

NEW TARIFF ORDER 2.0

242. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY:

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

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that some broadcasters are tweaking the TRAI's New Tariff Order (NTO) 2.0 by keeping popular channels out of bouquet and charging more;
- (b) whether they are charging ₹15-25 for some channels keeping them outside the bouquet;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that due to above, viewers have to shell out 50 per cent more money;
- (d) if so, whether Government has fixed maximum price even for those channels which are kept outside the bouquet; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) to (e): The Tariff Orders are issued from time to time by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 11 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) have informed that broadcasters have declared tariff of their channels as per the provisions of the New Regulatory Framework 2020.

Broadcasters have declared the Maximum Retail Price of their few popular channels above Rs.12/- and offering such channels only on a-la-carte basis. As per the implementation plan of New Regulatory Framework 2020 issued by TRAI, Distribution Platforms Operators (DPOs) are required to declare rates of channels and bouquets offered to consumers by 31st January 2022 and thereafter offering to the consumer will be made available with effect from 1st April 2022. Therefore, final prices for the consumers can be ascertained after 31st March 2022 when the choice of channels are exercised by consumers. The New Regulatory Framework notified by TRAI in 2017 gave full flexibility to the broadcasters to declare price of their pay channels on a-la-carte basis since December 2018. TRAI has not fixed the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) for those channels which are kept outside the bouquet. These provisions have not been amended in New Regulatory Framework 2020.
