

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2634
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2018)**

ENCOURAGEMENT OF DISH ANTENNA TO REPLACE TV CABLES

2634. SHRI SAMHAJI CHHATRAPATI

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that the web of TV cables on electricity poles in residential areas not only look ugly but is a threat to human life.
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to gradually discourage cable TV operators and encourage Dish TV Antennae; and
- (d) if not, the reason therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING {COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)}

(a) and (b): Section 4B of the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 empowers the Central Government to lay down appropriate guidelines to enable the State Governments to put in place an appropriate mechanism for speedy clearance of requests from cable operators for laying cables or erecting posts on any property vested in, or under the control or management of, any public authority and for settlement of disputes, including refusal of permission by the public authority.

Accordingly, on 16/6/2017 Ministry of Information and broadcasting had issued guidelines to all the State Governments to enable them to put in place an appropriate mechanism for speedy clearance of requests from cable operators for grant of Right of Way (RoW) to maintain the cable infrastructure underground and/or over ground on any property vested in, or under the control or management of, any public authority.

The guidelines have obligations on the part of Cable Operator, while laying the cable lines, to ensure mitigation of public inconvenience and to provide public safety.

(c) and (d): The cable industry has played a prominent role in the growth of the electronic media sector. As per data available on Management Information System (MIS) developed by the Ministry, the reach of TV households in Cable TV is 46.5% and in DTH services it is 42.4%. It shows that both the platforms are in position and increasing simultaneously as per choice of consumers.
