

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 247  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2022)**

**REVENUE LOSS OF FREEDISH DUE TO HOLD ON E-AUCTION**

**247. SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR:**

Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for which the Ministry suddenly put on hold the e-auction policy of its FreeDish from 12/8/17 to May 2018;
- (b) the amounts earned from these e-auctions in the 10 month period before the stoppage, the 10 month period of stoppage and the 10 months after e-auctions were restored;
- (c) the action taken for 'presumptive losses' made by Prasar Bharati and DD during the stoppage period; and
- (d) the details of the authorities who issued the order and is responsible for deliberate and malicious loss of public funds?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (d) Review of policy for the benefit of Prasar Bharati, stakeholders and the public in general on the basis of recent technological advancements is a regular exercise done from time to time. It is in this connection that a need was felt to review the existing e-auction policy, for which it was kept in abeyance on 12.08.2017.

Yearly revenue earned from DD Free Dish auctions before & after stoppage of e-auction on 12.08.2017 and during stoppage period is as below:

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Revenue (Rs. Crore)</b>
2017-18 (Before abeyance of e-auction)	278.1
2018-19 (During abeyance of e-auction)	454.0
2019-20 (After resumption of e-auction)	457.0

There was no loss of revenue to Prasar Bharati during the e-auction abeyance period or in subsequent years.

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