

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 968  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2022)**

**OWNERSHIP OF NEWS CHANNELS**

**968. SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P :**

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

- a) the names of Government approved visual media news channels in each State;
- b) the ownership of each visual media news channel operating in the country; and ;
- c) whether Government has taken any steps to prevent monopoly of a few companies in the visual media news channel ownership?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF  
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
{SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR}**

(a) & (b) : This Ministry grants permission for uplinking and downlinking of private satellite TV channels to the companies registered in India under companies Act, 1956/LLPs registered under the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 as per Policy Guidelines for Uplinking and Downlinking of Satellite Television Channels in India, 2022. The permission to Private satellite TV channels is granted on pan India basis instead of State/UT-wise. The details of permitted private satellite TV channels are available on New Broadcastseva portal: <https://new.broadcastseva.gov.in/>→User Information System→Satellite TV Channels→ Permitted.

(c) : Policy Guidelines for Uplinking and Downlinking of Satellite Television Channels in India, 2022 allows, in addition to companies, Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) to obtain permissions for uplinking/ downlinking of satellite TV channels. Currently there are around 200 companies, having separate ownership and independent control, which have been granted permission for about 385 news channels. On the basis of TRAI recommendations on “Media Ownership” dated 12.08.2014, the guidelines for obtaining license for Direct To Home services has been amended incorporating the clause that a vertically integrated entity will not reserve more than 15% of the operational channel capacity for its vertically integrated operator. TRAI in its recommendation on “Market Structure/Competition on Cable TV Services” dated 07.09.2022 has opined that by and

large no monopoly is prevailing in the Cable TV distribution sector and recommended that there is no need to introduce any additional regulations or take any corrective measures to enhance the level of competition in cable TV distribution sector.

\*\*\*\*\*