

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

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *368
TO BE ANSWERED 04.04.2025**

MANDATORY TELECAST OF PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAMMES

*368. SHRI ASHOKRAO SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:

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

- (a) whether Government has issued any guidelines to broadcasters to devote at least 30 minutes of air time daily for mandatory telecast of public service programmes of national importance and social relevance, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the aims and objectives of obligatory broadcasting of public service programmes of national importance and social relevance;
- (c) the details of subjects included/likely to be included on themes of public service programmes; and
- (d) the details of channels exempted from obligation of public service broadcasting and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *368 FOR ANSWER ON 04.04.2025**

(a) to (d): Para 35 of the Policy Guidelines for Uplinking and Downlinking of Satellite Television Channels in India, 2022 provides that a company/LLP having permission under these guidelines for uplinking a channel and its downlinking in India may undertake public service broadcasting for minimum period of 30 minutes in a day on themes of national importance and of social relevance including education and spread of literacy, agriculture and rural development, health and family welfare, science and technology, welfare of women, welfare of the weaker sections of the society, protection of environment and of cultural heritage and national integration.

The objective of this process is to spread greater awareness on the themes of national importance and of social relevance which is to be achieved through voluntary compliance and self-certification by the broadcasters.

This Ministry also issued an advisory on 30.01.2023 defining procedures for Public Service Broadcasting under 8 themes.

The said list of 8 themes provided under para 35 (1) of the guidelines is not exhaustive and may be expanded to include themes on similar subjects such as water conservation and disaster management, etc.

Para 35 of the guidelines further provides that the channels may modulate their content to fulfill the public service broadcasting obligation, except where it may not be feasible, such as in the case of sports channels, etc.
