

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2553**

**(TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2024)**

**FREE DOORDARSHAN DTH SERVICES**

**2553. Shri Selvam G:**

**Shri C N Annadurai:**

**Shri Navaskani K:**

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

- (a) the current reach and coverage of free Doordarshan DTH services across the country;**
- (b) whether there are any plans to expand coverage in regions with poor terrestrial or cable connectivity;**
- (c) the number of free Doordarshan DTH connections distributed across the country during the last three years, State/UT-wise;**
- (d) whether any specific categories, such as Below Poverty Line (BPL) families or rural households are prioritized for receiving free DTH connections;**

- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure equitable distribution of such connections in remote and tribal areas;**
- (f) whether the distribution of free DTH connections has significantly increased the viewership of Doordarshan channels in rural and remote areas and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (g) whether any feedback mechanism is in place to assess the satisfaction and impact of free DTH services on beneficiaries and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS**

**(DR. L. MURUGAN)**

**(a) to (g): Doordarshan (DD) Free Dish is a free-to-air DTH service that has full coverage across the country. In case of Andaman & Nicobar (A&N) Islands, a special 10 channel C-Band Satellite DTH service is in operation. Presently, about 45 million TV homes in India have DD Free Dish (industry estimate).**

**The DD Free Dish is widely available across the country.**

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