

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2081
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.05.2016)**

FREE TO AIR CHANNEL

2081. SHRI NAGAR RODMAL:

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

- (a) the details of the free to air channels in the country at present, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to start more free to air channels in various States in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Presently, 885 satellite TV channels are permitted by the Ministry under the uplinking / downlinking guidelines. The detail of permitted TV channels is available on Ministry's website www.mib.nic.in. Out of these 269 channels have been reported as pay channels by the broadcasters to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

Prasar Bharati has informed that AIR has 23 Free to Air (FTA) channels on Doordarshan's DTH Platform(DD Free Dish) and it has proposed to start 16 more free to air channel on Doordarshan's DTH Platform. DD Free Dish DTH Service has 80 TV channels and it is envisaged to increase them to 250 channels under 12th plan scheme.
