

**No. 9/44/2006-BP&L**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Information & Broadcasting**  
**‘A’ Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.**

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**Dated the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009.**

**To**

- 1. All Authorized MSOs  
(as per list enclosed).**
- 2. MSO Alliance, IN Centre, 49/50 MIDC,  
12<sup>th</sup> Road, Andheri (E), Mumbai -400093.**
- 3. Cable Operators Federation of India (COFI).**

**SUBJECT:** Carrying of illegal and unauthorized channels by the MSOs/Cable operators in the country – advisory thereof regarding.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to the above cited subject and to say that the Ministry has been receiving complaints of carriage of unauthorized TV channels by the MSOs and cable operators in their cable TV network service. In this regard it is mentioned that as per rule 6(6) of the Cable TV Network Rules, 1994, cable operator may carry only those channels in his cable TV network which are registered with the Ministry under the Downlinking Policy Guidelines. Thus carriage of any channel which is not registered under the Downlinking policy guidelines of the Government is illegal and is in violation of Section 5 and Rule 6 (6) of the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act 1995 and the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994 respectively.

2. The Ministry has taken a serious note of carriage of illegal channels. The Ministry has been updating the list of registered channels under the said policy guidelines on its website ([www.mib.nic.in](http://www.mib.nic.in)) from time to time. Thus it is the duty of the MSOs/Cable operators to ensure before telecasting of any channel from all available sources to ensure that the channel is registered with the Government under the policy guidelines for Downlinking of TV channels. They are advised to discontinue telecast /transmission/re-transmission of such channel, if any, with immediate effect.

3. Therefore, all MSOs/Cable Operators Associations are hereby advised to ascertain from the all available sources about the registration of channels being carried / proposed to be carried by them or their cable operators in their cable TV services failing which strict penal action shall be taken against erring cable operators/ MSOs as per the provisions of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules made thereunder.

4. This issues with the approval of Secretary, I & B.

**Yours faithfully,**

**(Arvind Kumar)**  
**Director (BP&L)**  
**Tele: 23381863.**