

F. No.9/15/2011-BP&L  
Government of India  
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting  
"A" Wing, Shastri Bhawan

New Delhi, 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2011

To,

1. All Multi-System Operators
2. All Local Cable Operators Associations
3. All DTH Operators

Subject:- Compulsory transmission of Doordarshan and Parliament Channels on satellite/ cable television networks - Regarding

Sir/Madam,

Section 8(1) (i) of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 provides that every cable operator shall re-transmit channels operated by or on behalf of Parliament in the manner and name as may be prescribed by the Central Government by notification in the official Gazette. The Notification 9/8/2006-BP&L(Vol III) dt. 6.11.2007 issued by this Ministry thereunder provides for the names of the Channels and the manner of their transmission in terms of the aforesaid Section 8(1)(i) of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995.

2. Further, Section 8(1) (ii) of the said Act provides that every cable operator shall re-transmit at least two Doordarshan terrestrial channels and one regional language channel of a State in the prime band. Section 8(3) of the Act further provides that Prasar Bharati Corporation may by notification specify the number and name of every Doordarshan Channel to be re-transmitted by cable operators and the manner of reception and re-transmission of such channels. Accordingly, the Notifications issued by Prasar Bhaarti Corporation vide Notification dt. 13.9.2000 read with notifications dt. 24.10.2003 and dt. 25.2.2005, specifies the details of such Doordarshan Channels and the manner of their re-transmission. The two Doordarshan channels to be re-transmitted are (i) DD National and (ii) DD (News Channel) and the regional channels in the respective states are as per the schedule mentioned in the said notification dt.25.2.2005.

3. It is, however, noticed that Doordarshan and Parliament Channels are not being re-transmitted by some satellite/cable television networks. As re-transmission of Parliament and Doordarshan channels is statutorily mandated by an Act of Parliament, namely, the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, non-compliance thereof is violation of the extant Law. Such violation invites punitive legal sanctions prescribed under Sections 16 and 17 of the said Act. As per the provisions contained in the said Sections 16 and 17, violation of the Act is a punishable offence with imprisonment for a term up to two years or fine up to Rs. 1000 or both in case of the first offence and with imprisonment up to five years and fine up to Rs.5000, in case of every subsequent offence.

4. Accordingly, the Ministry has seriously viewed the non-retransmission of Parliament and Doordarshan Channels by satellite/cable television networks and advises all DTH Operators, Multi-System Operators and Local Cable Operators to strictly follow the statutory provisions contained in Section 8 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the Notifications promulgated thereunder, as mentioned above. Any further violation will attract penal action as provided for in the said Act.

5. You are requested to provide wide circulation to this communication to all your members. A copy of this communication is also placed on this Ministry's web site at [www.mib.nic.in](http://www.mib.nic.in) for information.



(K.S. Rejimon)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India