

PrasarBharati  
(India's Public Service Broadcaster)  
DoordarshanBhawan, Copernicus Marg  
New Delhi- 110 001

F. No. DTH/130/2020-P-VII

Dated: 17.05.2020

**Subject: Deferment in payment of DD Free Dish carriage fee-regarding**

Sir/Madam

Reference is invited to Prasar Bharati's emails dated 07.04.2020 and 13.04.2020 regarding extension of time for payment of instalments upto 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 subject to furnishing of a Bank Guarantee and payment of reduced interest @ 5.7% on the delayed payment.

2. Subsequently various representations were received for further deferment of payment of carriage fee in view of the situation arising out of the pandemic. Prasar Bharati has considered the representations sympathetically and has decided to offer following payment options to provide substantial relief for a period of three months:

**Option 1:**

- 1.1 A channel can avail of deferment from the requirement of paying the carriage fee in advance monthly instalment, upto three months, subject to it furnishing separate bank guarantees (valid for four months each) towards the amount of each instalment (plus interest @ 5.7% per annum for 03 months) and undertaking to pay the instalment amount with interest after availing of this deferment for three months. This deferment is applicable for carriage fee instalments (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> instalments) for the months of May, June and July 2020 payable on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2020 and 27<sup>th</sup> June 2020 respectively.
- 1.2 In practical terms, it would mean that for the month of May, a channel desirous of availing this benefit can furnish a bank guarantee equivalent to the amount of instalment for the month of May by 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2020.
- 1.3 For availing similar benefit for the months of June and July, it has to furnish the respective bank guarantees by 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2020 and 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2020.
- 1.4 The instalments for the months of May, June and July, 2020 would become payable on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2020, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 and 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 respectively, alongwith instalments for August, September and October, 2020.
- 1.5 To put it in figures, if the monthly instalment of a channel is Rs. 1.5 crore and a channel has not made payment for May (which was due on 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2020) it may furnish a bank guarantee for an amount of Rs. 1.5 crore plus interest thereon @5.7% for three months by 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2020. Similarly it need not pay Rs. 1.5 crore on 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2020 and 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 towards the June & July instalments. Instead it may furnish bank guarantees for Rs. 1.5 crore each plus interest thereon @5.7% for three months on 27<sup>th</sup> May and 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2020. It would be liable to pay the three instalments of Rs. 1.5 Crore each for May, June and July, 2020 respectively on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2020, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 and 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 with interest@5.7% for three months along with the payment of the regular instalment for the months of July, August and September, 2020.
- 1.6 If a channel has already paid the instalment for May, 2020 in full it can avail of the above benefit for the months of June, July and August, 2020.

## Option 2:

- 2.1 If a channel finds it difficult to furnish a bank guarantee as above, it can avail of a second option, which is that instead of paying full amount of the instalments, it can pay 67% of the carriage fee instalments for three months. The balance 33% deferred payment of monthly instalments would become payable after availing of the time relaxation of three months for each instalment. This deferment is applicable for carriage fee instalments (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> instalments) for the months of May, June and July 2020 payable on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2020 and 27<sup>th</sup> June 2020 respectively.
- 2.2 Thus, the channel would only pay 67% of the monthly carriage fee each for May by 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2020, for June by 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2020 and for July by 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2020. The balance 33% of the monthly carriage fee for each month plus interest thereon for three months @ 5.7% would become payable on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2020, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 and 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 along with the payment of the regular instalment for the months of July, August and September, 2020.
- 2.3 Thus, if the instalment amount is Rs.1.5 crore for each month, the channel would only pay Rs. 1 crore on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2020, 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2020 and 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2020. The balance amount of Rs. 50 lakhs for each month plus interest thereon for three months @ 5.7% would become payable on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2020, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 and 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 along with the payment of the regular instalment for the months of July, August and September, 2020.
- 2.4 If a channel has already paid the instalment for May, 2020 in full it can avail of the above benefit for the months of June, July and August, 2020.
- 3 The channels which do not seek relaxations as above, are offered an incentive of 0.5% on the total amount payable by them. The benefit of this incentive would be given to them by way of adjustment from the 10<sup>th</sup> instalment. For three months such channels can pay the instalments on fortnightly basis as well i.e by the 27<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month and 12<sup>th</sup> of the next month. Thus payment for June can be made in two instalments payable on or before 27<sup>th</sup> May and 12<sup>th</sup> June respectively.
- 4 In so far as the channels that have opted not to come on the platform or have gone or been removed from the platform are concerned, an option is given to them to come back on the platform and avail of the relaxations as above subject to their paying the instalment for April by 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2020 (in case the same is unpaid).
- 5 In case of non-receipt of Bank Guarantee or payments, as prescribed in above mentioned payment options, the channel may be discontinued forthwith, without any notice.

This has the approval of the Competent Authority.

  
(Inderjeet Grewal)  
Director (DTH)

To

All DD Free Dish private TV channels  
(Through e-mail)