

प्रसारभारती/ Prasar Bharati
भारतकालोकसेवाप्रसारक/ India's Public Service Broadcaster
प्रसारभारतीसचिवालय/ Prasar Bharati Secretariat
प्रसारभारतीभवन/ Prasar Bharati House
कोपर्निकसमार्ग/ Copernicus Marg
नईदिल्ली/ New Delhi-110001

No.: DDFD / 3(1)/2026/Platforms

Dated: 11TH May, 2026

Notice for 98TH e-Auction of MPRG-2 Slots on DD Free Dish

Subject: Notice Inviting Applications for 98TH e-Auction for Allotment of Vacant MPEG-2 Slots on DD Free Dish Platform for the Period w.e.f. 29.05.2026 to 31.03.2027 on pro-rata basis.

1. Prasar Bharati invites applications for allotment of vacant MPEG-2 slots on DD Free Dish DTH Platform for the period w.e.f. 29.05.2026 to 31.03.2027 through 98TH online e-auction process scheduled to be tentatively held on 21ST May, 2026 (Thursday).
2. The e-auction will be conducted in accordance with 'E-auction Methodology 2025 for Allotment of DD Free Dish Slots to Private TV channels', notified by Prasar Bharati on 03.01.2025 & subsequent Amendment dated 09.01.2026, which is available on the Prasar Bharati website, <http://prasarbharati.gov.in>.
3. Only satellite channels permitted and licensed by the Ministry of I&B would be allowed to participate in the e-auction. Only companies holding valid permission from Ministry of I&B can apply for participation in e-auction for allocation of DD Free Dish slot.
4. International Public Broadcasters permitted and licensed by the Ministry of I & B can also participate in e-auction.
5. Categorization of TV channels in different buckets in accordance with genres and language of channel for the allotment period will be as follows:



S.No.	Bucket	Genre and Language
1.	Bucket A+	GEC (Hindi / Urdu) Channels
2.	Bucket A	Movie (Hindi / Urdu) Channels
3.	Bucket B	a. Music (Hindi / Urdu) Channels b. Sports (Hindi / Urdu) Channels c. All Channels of Bhojpuri Language d. All other remaining Genre of Hindi / Urdu
4.	Bucket C	News & Current Affairs (Hindi / Urdu) Channels
5.	Bucket D	a. Devotional / Spiritual / Ayush channels b. All Genres of Marathi & Punjabi Channels c. News & Current Affairs (English) Channels d. Yet to be launched/re-launched channels in regional languages as mentioned in Schedule 8 of the Constitution of India (except Hindi & Urdu) which fulfill the eligibility criteria.

Table 1

* *If a particular Indian language is represented on DD Free Dish by any channel(s) under Bucket 'R' for 2 years continuously then that concerned language shall be deemed as represented and it shall be shifted from Bucket 'R' to Bucket 'D' from next year.*

6. Broadcasters desirous of allotment of slot on DD Free Dish are required to provide clear and unambiguous proof in support of Genre and Language classification of their channel. In case of lack of clarity, ambiguity or conflicting information, applications will be deemed ineligible and may be summarily rejected. For details, please refer checklist of documents provided with the application form. Such declaration for Genre and Language classification should be in accordance to the current norms and as specified in the Table 1 of point 5 above. Further, the Channel shall contain content predominantly of Genre and Language as declared at the time of e-Auction application.

6.1 'Predominantly', as mentioned in clause 6 above, means 75 percent of content telecast on channel shall be in Genre and Language (audio), as declared by applicant Channel Provider at the time of e-auction, excluding the limit of advertisements / promos on the channel as prescribed under rule (7) sub-rule (ii) of Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 across a month.

This means that the content of declared Genre and Language of a Channel shall not be less than 60 percent of the entire content of the channel in a month.

6.2 Whenever any violation with respect to content and language declared by the channel come to notice, the recording of the content broadcast by the channel shall be reviewed by a duly constituted committee. For violation of

declared genre & language by a channel, the action shall be taken based on recommendations of the committee. If the channel is found to be defaulting in the language and /or genre of content, a show cause notice shall be issued to such defaulters. Defaulter shall have an option to apply for change of genre/language, as the case may be, within a prescribed time frame, as per terms & conditions of E-auction Methodology 2025 (refer clause 5.11) /Notice Inviting Applications/ Allotment Letter / Agreement signed by the channel. In case, no request is submitted by defaulter channel for change of Genre/Language, Notice shall be issued for discontinuation of channels for violation of terms & conditions of allotment of DD Free Dish slot.

For this mid-year e-auction, the round wise starting Reserve Price and Buckets eligible to participate in e-auction will be as below:

E-Auction Round No.	Starting Reserve Price (in INR)	Buckets Eligible to Bid	Buckets Not Eligible to Bid
1 ST (Bucket A+)	Rs. 13,66,79,000/-	A+, A, B, C, D	----
2 ND (Bucket A)	Rs. 10,97,64,000/-	A, B,C, D	A+
3 RD (Bucket B)	Rs. 8,57,92,000/-	B,C, D	A+, A
4 TH (Bucket C)	Rs. 6,85,50,000/-	C, D	A+, A, B
5 TH (Bucket D)	Rs. 5,92,98,000/-	D	A+, A, B, C

7. Before, starting filling up of online application, please ensure that copies of all documents provided in **Annexure-1**, including participation fee RTGS detail / Demand Draft, are available in PDF format, not exceeding 1.0 MB, for uploading.
8. Satellite TV channels participating in e-auction shall be required to furnish an undertaking in the prescribed formats as per **Annexure-2**.
9. The channel provider desirous of participating in the e-auction shall be required to authorize one of their officials by clearly mentioning his / her Name, Designation, Contact detail as per prescribed **Annexure-3**.
10. The applicant company desirous of participating in the e-auction will be required to submit a duly filled and signed Integrity Pact, in the format provided in **Annexure-4**.
11. Change of name and or logo of a channel placed on DD Free Dish may be allowed subject to necessary permissions from Ministry of I & B.



12. Interested broadcasters may apply online at <https://fdslots.prasarbharati.org> and upload all requisite documents as prescribed in the application. Please note that it is mandatory to pay the non-refundable processing fee of Rs.25,000/- online at above portal to submit the application. The participation fee of Rs.1,50,00,000/- (Rupees one Crore Fifty Lakhs) only is to be paid through Demand Drafter through RTGS / Electronics mode as per following detail:

Pay in Favor of	PB BCI Doordarshan Commercial Service, payable at New Delhi by RTGS/ECS/NEFT/ Internet Banking.		
Bank & Address	State Bank of India, (Main Branch) Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001		
Account No.	11084233129	Type of Account	Current Account
IFSC Code	SBIN0000691	MICR No.	110002087

A self-attested proof (pdf copy) of deposit of Participation fee, copy of the demand draft or screen shot of RTGS, is to be uploaded online apart from filling detail of Demand Draft / UTR No. in appropriate field. Allotment of slot of successful bidders may be cancelled if it is found that their Demand Draft / RTGS are not realized.

13. After submission of online application, if participation fees is paid through Demand Draft, the original demand draft for participation fee along with printout of acknowledgement for submission of online application, which will be sent on the authorized e-mail, is to be submitted in sealed cover either in person or by Speed/Registered Post addressed to Deputy Director (Platforms), Room No. 601, Tower-A, Directorate General: Doordarshan, Doordarshan Bhawan, Copernicus Marg, New Delhi-110001 **latest by 18TH May, 2026 (Monday) by 03:00 p.m.**
14. Online training will be provided to all eligible participants before the commencement of actual e-Auction.
15. If required, Prasar Bharati can extend e-Auction to the next day or as the case may be.
16. For details like e-auction process, terms & conditions and payment schedule etc. please refer to E-auction Methodology 2025 & subsequent Amendment dated 09.01.2026 available on the website <http://prasarbharati.gov.in>.
17. Prasar Bharati reserve the rights to accept/reject/cancel/amend the e-Auction/slot at any time during the e-Auction or after e-Auction.



18. For unsuccessful bidders, participation fee will be refunded within three weeks after the declaration of the results of e-auction.
19. After the successful conduct of e-auction, a 'Letter of Allotment' will be issued by Prasar Bharati to the successful bidder along with the 'Payment Schedule' for payment of bid amount and prescribed format of agreement to be signed between Prasar Bharati & bidder.
20. Every successful bidder will be required to submit a signed 'Agreement' with Prasar Bharati in two original copies within 15 days of issue of 'Letter of Allotment'. The prescribed format of the 'Agreement' can be downloaded from the website <https://prasarbharati.gov.in>.
21. Successful channels will be placed on vacant slots / Logical Channel Numbers (LCNs) of DD Free Dish as per '**Procedure for Allotment / Change of Slots / LCNs to existing as well as New Private TV Channels Dated 09.01.2025**' which can be accessed on the website <https://prasarbharati.gov.in>. Prasar Bharati's decision in this regard shall be final.
22. Successful channels shall be required to make payments as per 'Payment Schedule' prescribed in 'Letter of Allotment' on the basis of Clause 6.1 of the E-auction Methodology 2025 for allotment of vacant MPEG-2 slots on DD Free Dish which will also be part of Agreement to be signed between Prasar Bharati & successful bidders.
23. In case of any installment is not paid in full within the scheduled dates, an e-mail communication will be sent to registered email (as mentioned in Agreement) of the channel provider to make payment within 7 days from date of communication along with late payment interest as mentioned in the clause below
24. An interest @ 14.5% per annum shall be charged from the due date of payment on the outstanding amount.
25. In case of payment due along with the interest, as mentioned in clause 24 above, is not paid within seven days from the date of communication, a Notice will be issued to make payment along with late payment interest, within 21 days from the date of Notice. In case of payment due along with the interest is not paid, the Participation Fee along with any installment already deposited by the Broadcaster/Channel till date, will be forfeited and the channel shall be discontinued from DD Free Dish Platform without any further notice and the channel shall have no right to be carried on DD Free Dish on vacated slot.



26. The vacated slot may be made available for e-auction as detailed in clause 10.5 of Annexure-A or 11.5 of Annexure-B, as the case may be, of the E-auction Methodology, 2025.
27. Successful channel will be placed on DD Free Dish after receipt of payment for 1ST installment of carriage fee, as provided in allotment letter. In case the 'Channel Provider' fails to place its channel on its allocated slot within one month of the allotment commencement date, the allotment shall stand cancelled automatically and the Participation Fee along with any installment already deposited shall be forfeited.
28. In case the 'Channel Provider' withdraws its channel prematurely or terminates the contract prematurely, the 'Participation Fee' shall be forfeited along with any installment already deposited.
29. For each successful Channel, the Channel Provider is required to mandatorily provide IRD Box having dual IP Multicast output and SDI, at least one week in advance, at Doordarshan's DTH Station at Todapur, New Delhi along with satellite parameters and other technical details to place the channel on DD Free Dish Platform
30. The Last Date for submission of applications and proof of deposit of Participation fees through RTGS or original Demand Draft is **18TH May, 2026 (Monday) by 03:00 p.m.**



P. S. Srivastava
DDG (Platforms)