



# ALL INDIA TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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## PRESS RELEASE

All India Tennis Association (AITA) has had an agreement with Doordarshan (DD) since 1997 which has been renewed every 5 years. The latest renewal was done in Jan 2017 and the agreement is valid till Jan 2022. As per the agreement, DD has the exclusive rights to cover the Davis Cup matches in India and international tournaments including Challengers and Futures. In the last one year DD has not been honouring the agreement and has failed to telecast major international events causing a great loss of reputation to the AITA in front of ATP, WTA and ITF.

India is now hosting the World Group Qualifying Tie against Italy in Kolkata on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2019. This is a prestigious tie and the winner of this tie will go into the elite 18 team World Group. This is like being in the top 18 team World Cup Soccer. As per our agreement with DD, AITA cannot approach any other broadcasters. At the same time DD is not confirming whether they are telecasting the tie or not. ITF is in continuous correspondence with AITA and is deeply concerned about the status of 'live' telecast of the event.

Having failed to receive any positive response from DD in the last 2 months, AITA has initiated legal proceedings before the Hon'ble High Court against DD asking for specific performance on telecast of Davis Cup tie. This is a matter of great honour for the nation and for ensuring that Indian people are not deprived of viewing the prestigious Davis Cup tie in which India is playing at such a high level.

(HIRONMOY CHATTERJEE)

Hon. Secretary General

17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018