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SUPREME COURT

States Win Big

Supreme Court Affirms Entertainment Tax on DTH and Cable Despite Central Service Tax

Sheikh Rayees • May 23, 2025

PUBLISHED REPORT

The Supreme Court has put a decisive stamp on a long-standing tussle over entertainment tax on Direct-to-Home (DTH) and cable TV services, ruling that State governments hold the right to levy such taxes independently—even though the Union government already collects service tax on broadcasting. A two-judge Bench, led by Justices BV Nagarathna and N Kotiswar Singh, unanimously dismissed challenges by leading DTH operators like Tata Play, Dish TV...

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