

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3684
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2003
PROPOSALS FOR DTH
GADDE RAMAMOCHAN;M. DURAI;M.V.V.S MURTHI

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have finalized guidelines for DTH;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any company have applied for licence to start DTH services in the country;
- (d) if so, the name of company granted licences by the Government with the terms and reference for the same;
- (e) whether some companies who are eager to enter into agreement with the Government have complained that the guidelines prescribed by the Government are very tough to implement; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken/likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b): Detailed Guidelines for starting DTH service were issued in March, 2001. These, inter-alia, provide that:-

? The licensee company shall be an Indian company, registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1956;

? Licensee shall adhere to programme and advertisement codes laid down by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting from time to time;

? All foreign personnel likely to be deployed by way of appointment, contract, consultancy etc. by the licensee for installation, maintenance and operation of the licensee's service shall be required to obtain security clearance from the Government of India prior to their deployment;

? All content provided by the DTH platform to the subscribers, irrespective of its source, shall pass through the encryption and conditional access system, located within the earth station situated on Indian soil;

? The licensee shall ensure that its facilities are not used for transmission of any objectionable or obscene content, messages or communication inconsistent with the laws of India;

? The licensee shall provide the necessary facility for continuous monitoring of the DTH broadcasting service at its own cost and maintain the recordings of programmes and advertisements carried on the platform for a period of ninety days from the date of broadcast and produce the same to the licensor or its authorized representative, as and when required;

? The licensee will, if required by the licensor or its authorized representative, provide necessary facilities for continuous monitoring for any particular aspect of the licensee's activities and operations;

? The applicant is required to fulfil the eligibility criteria laid down in the DTH guidelines and is also subject to security and technical clearances from the concerned departments.

The guidelines are available on this Ministry's website: mib.nic.in

(c): Four companies have submitted applications to start DTH service in India viz. –

- (i) M/s Space TV Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
- (ii) M/s ASC Enterprises Ltd, Mumbai
- (iii) Essel Shyam Communication Ltd.
- (iv) Noida Software Technology Park Ltd.

(d): None of the applicant companies has so far been given licence.

(e): No, Sir.

(f): Does not arise.