GOVERNMENT OF INDIA INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1576
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2003
COMMITTEE ON CONDITIONAL ACCESS SYSTEM
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR;KAMAL NATH;PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;SHYAMA SINGH

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

- (a) whether the interferences of the political leaders in some States, the implementation of CAS has been stalled;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government has now set up State level implementation committees for its enforcement in an effective way;
- (c) if so, the response of the State Governments in this regard;
- (d) whether there are possibilities of CAS may roll out in some cities; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a): No, Sir.

(b), (c), (d) & (e): In order to ensure the fullest cooperation from the State Government authorities for smooth implementation of the Conditional Access System, the State Governments of the four metros have been equested to set up State level Implementation Committees for its enforcement in an effective way. The Government of West Bengal has recently constituted the said Committee. The response from other State Governments is awaited. Section 4A of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 provides that where the Central Government is satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, it may make it obligatory for every Cable Operator, to transmit or retransmit programmes of any channel, through an addressable system, with effect from such date, as may be specified in the notification and different dates may be specified for different states, cities, towns or areas, as the case may be.