

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:340  
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2007  
REVIEW OF CONDITIONAL ACCESS SYSTEM  
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz;Jagannath Dr. M.

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

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the success of conditional Access System (CAS) in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received the report of the Committee to look into introduction of CAS;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of recommendations made by the Committee;
- (f) the time by when CAS is likely to be roll out in all over the country;
- (g) whether problems are being faced by the CAS subscribers due to poor broadcast quality and cable operators failure to provide channels that subscribers have applied for under the pay channel category;
- (h) if so, the details thereof; and
- (i) the steps taken/to be taken by the Government to redress the problems faced by the CAS subscribers?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. DASMUNSI)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) &(i): CAS has been reviewed in consultation with TRAI. As on 31 July, 2007, 5.12 lacs STBs have been reported to be deployed by Multi System Operators (MSOs)/cable operators. A meeting with the concerned State Government officials and nodal officers has been held in the ministry on 05 June 2007. The State Governments have been requested to come up with their formal views on the extension of CAS and to get a survey conducted by a professional agency to understand the issues and problems, if any, faced by the viewers. TRAI has issued a regulation on Quality of Service to be provided by the Service providers in the CAS notified areas on 23 August 2006. To assess the implementation of Quality of Service norms, TRAI has engaged Broadcast Consultant India Limited (BECIL), a PSU under Government of India to carry out an audit of Quality of Service (QoS) performance in CAS notified areas.

(c): No Committee has been constituted by Government on implementation of CAS.

(d) & (e): Does not arise.

(f): Extension of CAS requires evaluation of first phase & large scale consultations with Stakeholders, consumer organizations & States. Hence, no time limit can be given.

(g)&(h): TRAI has intimated that 47 complaints have been received by TRAI regarding poor quality and non- availability of channels selected by the subscribers. Out of these, 40 complaints have been resolved, and for the rest, the matter is being pursued with the service providers.