

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1233
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2004
TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has a consultation paper;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which Telecom Regulatory Authority has sought the views in regard to CAS be made voluntary;
- (c) whether any concrete steps and measures have been taken for introducing of a voluntary CAS in the country;
- (d) the other facilities likely to be provided by cable operators to the consumers; and
- (e) the time by which the CAS is likely to be implemented in Delhi and other States?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) & (b): The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has, in the month of April,2004, issued a consultation paper on `issues relating to broadcasting and distribution of TV channels`. This consultation paper is available on TRAI's website (<http://www.traigov.in>). TRAI has, interalia sought views on the following issues:

- (i) Should CAS to be introduced to view pay channels? If yes, should it be mandated by law or voluntarily introduced by Service Providers?
- (ii) If CAS is to be introduced voluntarily, how should it be done and who would take initiative to introduce it?
- (c) & (d): The TRAI's recommendations are awaited.
- (e) : No time frame can be indicated at this stage.