

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3916
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2010
IMPLEMENTATION OF CAS
Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram

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

- (a) whether the Conditional Access System (CAS) has been implemented fully in Delhi and some other cities;
- (b) if so, the details of the monthly charges to be paid for viewing cable TV through CAS/Dish TV and without CAS separately;
- (c) the number of cities in which the Set Top Box Scheme has been introduced by the Government;
- (d) whether there is acute shortage of Set Top Boxes required under the CAS in the country; and
- (e) if so, remedial measures being taken in this regard alongwith the names of the companies making available Set Top Boxes in the country presently?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. JATUA)

- (a) : Conditional Access System (CAS) has been implemented in parts of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata since 31.12.2006 and whole of metropolitan city of Chennai since the year 2003.
- (b) : The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is regulating the subscription charges under Section 11(2) of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997. The TRAI vide its Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services (Second) Tariff Order, 2004 dated 01.10.2004 as amended from time to time, has prescribed ceilings at consumer level for cable TV charges in non-CAS areas. The ceilings (excluding taxes) prescribed are based on the number of pay channels and free-to-air (FTA) channels being transmitted or re-transmitted for different categories of cities, towns and other habitations through the Cable Television Network. TRAI vide its Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services (Third) (CAS Areas) Tariff order, 2008(5 of 2008) dated the 26.12.2008 has prescribed a ceiling of Rs.5.35/- (excluding taxes) per pay channel per month for CAS notified areas of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai. A ceiling of Rs.82/- (excluding taxes) for a minimum of 30 Free to Air (FTA) channels has also been prescribed for CAS notified areas. For viewing the channels of basic service tier, a subscriber does not require any Set Top Box (STB) in the CAS notified areas. TRAI has not prescribed any tariff for Direct to Home (DTH) subscribers.
- (c) : Set Top Boxes are required for viewing pay channels in the notified areas of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.
- (d) : Government has not received any report of shortage of Set Top Boxes in CAS areas.
- (e) : No remedial measures are required. A number of companies are making available Set Top Boxes.