

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:105  
ANSWERED ON:09.11.2010  
REVENUE FROM DTH OPERATORS  
Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy

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

- (a) whether the Government earns regular revenue from the Direct to Home (DTH) operators;
- (b) if so, the details of revenue earned during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether hardware cost and carriage fee collected from various TV channels form part of such revenues; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): As per the Article 3 of the license agreement, the private DTH Operators are required to pay the license fee within one month of the end of the financial year. As such, license fee for the current financial year 2010-2011 will become due at the end of the current financial year. Revenue received during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-2010 are Rs.34.5 Crore, 89.3 Crore and 126.2 Crore respectively.

(e) & (d): The license fee collected by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting from DTH operators is based on the Gross Revenue, as defined in the Article 3 of the Schedule to the DTH License Agreement. As per this definition, revenue earned from the sale of hardware such as Set Top Box and by way of charging carriage fee is required to be included for the purpose of calculation of annual license fee. The Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) has, however, in its orders dated 26.8.2008 and 28.5.2010, applied the principle of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) for determination of annual license fee. The Government has filed a Civil Appeal No. 3549/2009 in the Supreme Court of India against the order dated 26.8.2008 and the matter is sub-judice. The Government is in the process of filing Civil Appeal against the latest TDSAT order dated 28.5.2010 before the Apex Court.