

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3793  
ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012  
EXORBITANT CHARGES BY DTH OPERATORS  
Khair Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

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

- (a) whether the private Direct-to-Home (DTH) operators are charging exorbitant monthly fee/subscription from the subscribers under the Conditional Access System (CAS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of complaints received by the Government in this regard, State-wise; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government to regulate and prevent huge monthly subscription charged by the private DTH operators/players in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): The tariff for the addressable platforms, including Direct-to Home (DTH) services, are governed by the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services (Fourth) (Addressable Systems) Tariff Order, 2010 dated 21st July 2010, as amended from time to time. The tariff order, inter-alia, provides that the operators of addressable platforms, including DTH, shall offer all channels carried on their networks on a-la-carte basis to the consumers and in addition, optionally, they may also offer them as bouquet of channels. The retail tariff has been kept under forbearance, however, the tariff order provides that if the operator prescribes a minimum monthly subscription it shall not exceed Rs. 150/- (excluding taxes) per month towards channels chosen by the subscribers, either in a-la-carte or bouquet, for availing the services of such service provider. These provisions adequately protect the consumer against being exorbitantly charged for subscribing to DTH services, which is also reflected in the fact that no specific representations in this regard have been made by consumers.