

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:835

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2013

INSTALLATION OF SET TOP BOXES

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

- (a) the number of Set Top Boxes (STBs) installed in various cities in the country, State / UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Multi-System Operators (MSOs) and the local cable operators are operationalising their STBs;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the action taken against them; and
- (e) the revenue collected by the Government so far?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI)

(a) As mandated under Section 4A(1) of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, the Ministry vide its notification S.O 2534(E) dated 11.11.2011 notified dates for implementation of DAS in four phases. Phase-I of digitization has been substantially completed in the four metros of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai with effect from 31.10.2012. During Phase-II, 38 more cities has undergone digital transition with effect from 31.03.2013. The details of number of Set Top Boxes (STBs) installed in these cities is at Annexure.

(b) & (c) As per section 4A(1) of the Cable Act, it is obligatory for every cable operators to transmit or re-transmit programmes of any channel through a digital addressable system (DAS) with effect from the date so notified by the Central Government. This means that from the notified date, transmission of analogue signals by the cable operators will be stopped and the signals of cable operators will be encrypted, which can only be received through a Set Top Box after due authorization from the service provider. A list of Multi System Operators who have been granted registration to operate in DAS notified areas is available at Ministry's website <http://mib.nic.in>.

(d) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting had issued provisional registration to over 80 MSOs for operation in one or more cities of Phase-II, with the condition that they would operationalize their service before the cut-off date of 31.3.2013. Twenty MSOs failed to operationalize their services and their provisional registration has been cancelled.

(e) The Ministry has collected a total of Rs. 2, 12, 00,000/- from MSOs as processing fee for grant of MSO registration. The data regarding collection of revenue through taxes is not maintained by the Ministry.