

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1949
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2009
REVENUE FROM DTH OPERATORS
Singh Shri Sushil Kumar

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

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

(a) :Yes, Sir.

(b): The revenue received from the DTH operators during the financial years 2006-07, 2007-2008 and 2008-09 is Rs.23,23,25,641/-; Rs.34,56,31,258/-; and Rs.89,38,11,734/- respectively. The license fee for the current financial will be due in April 2010 as per license agreement for DTH service.

(c)& (d): As per the definition of Gross Revenue provided in the guidelines for DTH Service, 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) in its order and judgement dated 26.8.2008 and further order dated 4.11.2009 has held that hardware such as Set Top Box are part of licensed activity and would be counted towards gross revenue for the purpose of license fee. However TDSAT has applied the principle of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) for determination of annual license fee. No specific directions have been given on carriage fee. The Government has filed a civil appeal No. 3549 / 2009 in the Supreme Court of India against the aforesaid order in so far as it applies the principle of AGR to DTH services.