

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:833
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2015
Levy Charge on Operators
Premachandran Shri N.K.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to levy charge on operators like DTH, MSO, DAS and HITS operators;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the criteria fixed by the Government to levy licences fees from the different categories of operators; and
- (d) the details regarding the relaxation granted by the Government for levy licences fee from the above categories of operators?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING {COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)}

(a) and (b): As per the Direct-to-Home (DTH) Guidelines, the DTH Licensee, in addition to an initial non-refundable entry fee of Rs.10 crores, is required to pay an annual license fee @ 10% of its Gross Revenue (GR). Under the Cable Television Network Rules, 1994, the provision for registration to Multi System Operators (MSO) to operate in the Digital Addressable System (DAS) prescribes processing fee of Rs. 1 Lakh for registration as MSO. As per Headend-in-the-Sky (HITS) Guidelines, an amount of Rs.10 crores towards onetime non-refundable entry fee is prescribed.

(c) and (d) : The licence fee/processing fee prescribed in the extant guidelines/rules lay down fee structures as recommended by the Group of Ministers (GOM) for DTH and in case of MSOs and HITS, on recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). No relaxation has been granted by this Ministry in respect of levy of licence fee.