

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3895
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2014
DIGITAL ADDRESSABLE SYSTEM
Venugopal Dr. Ponnusamy

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to issue the Digital Addressable System Licence to cable operators;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any such request from any State Governments;
- (d) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year and the reaction of the Government thereon, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENT AFFAIRS (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (e): As per the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994 , every Multi System Operator(MSO) is required to obtain registration from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for providing services in the areas notified for implementing Digital Addressable System (DAS) . This Ministry has so far granted 170 MSO registrations. A request has been received from Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable TV Corporation Limited, a Government of Tamil Nadu Public Sector Undertaking, for grant of registration as MSO to operate in DAS notified areas of Tamil Nadu. The proposal is being examined in the light of the recommendations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) regarding entry of Government entities in the broadcasting and distribution activities.