GOVERNMENT OF INDIA INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3275 ANSWERED ON:12.12.2014 CAS DAS LICENCE Ramachandran Shri Krishnan Narayanasamy

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposal from State-run Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable TV Corporation Limited (TACTV) for grant of license for Conditional Access System/ Digital Addressable Systems (CAS/DAS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon;
- (c) whether the Government has issued CAS/DAS licenses to some private organization who have applied after the TACTV;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which CAS/DAS license is likely to be provided to TACTV?

Answer

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

- a) & (b Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable TV Corporation Limited (TACTV) was granted provisional Multi System Operators (MSO) registration on 2.4.2008 to operate in Conditional Access Systems (CAS) areas of Chennai on certain conditions. When CAS was replaced with Digital Addressable Systems (DAS) TACTV had applied for registration as MSO for DAS areas of Chennai on 5/7/2012 and other areas of Tamil Nadu on 21/11/2012. TRAI in its recommendations dated 12.11.2008 and 28.12.2012 titled "Issues relating to entry of certain entities into Broadcasting and/or distribution activities" inter alia recommended that the Government entities should not be allowed to enter into business of broadcasting and or distribution of TV channels. Examination of all recommendations as part of policy making is a continuous process that is undertaken from time to time.
- c) & d) The list of permitted MSOs registration is available on the website of the Ministry (www.mib.nic.in).
- e) The grant of registration to TACTV as MSO in DAS notified areas is linked with the formulation of policy based on TRAI recommendations.