

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3825
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2003
NOTIFICATION ON CAS
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY

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

- (a) whether the Government have propose to issue two notifications on the Conditional Access System (CAS);
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the same is proposed to be implemented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (c): Notifications on CAS have already been issued by this Ministry at different times.

Vide Notification dated 14.1.2003 Government had decided to implement CAS in the four metro cities w.e.f. 15.7.2003. After monitoring the preparedness of stakeholders to introduce addressability and after discussion with various stakeholders, Government, vide Notification dated 10.7.2003, has decided to roll out the CAS in a zonal phased manner, in the metros of Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata and in the entire Chennai Metropolitan area w.e.f. 1.9.2003. Government has, through notification issued on 7.5.2003, specified Rs. 72/- (plus taxes) as the maximum price of basic service tier, consisting of not less than 30 free-to-air channels of different genres of entertainment, news, sports, children's programmes and music.

The Cable Television (Amendment) Rules, 2003, notified on 6.6.2003, specify the manner of publicizing the subscription rates for pay channels, submission of quarterly report by cable operators, declaration of channels as 'free-to-air' and 'pay' etc. All these Notifications are available in Ministry's website www.mib.nic.in