

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2412  
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2005  
KU- BAND SIGNALS  
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

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

- (a) whether the Government has received a request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to permit private cable operators to receive Ku-band signals and distribute through their own network for educational and non-commercial purposes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS ( SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI )

(a) to (c) : In the year 2001, Government of Andhra Pradesh was permitted to uplink its TV channel for development communications purposes, within a closed user group only. Later, a request was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to permit private cable operators to receive Ku-band signals and distribute through their own network for educational and non-commercial purposes.

Government of Andhra Pradesh has been informed that it would be extremely difficult for Society for Andhra Pradesh Network (SAPNET), an autonomous Society set up by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, to ensure the carriage of TV channel by cable operators in view of ever-increasing demand for carriage space by other private TV channels. Moreover, the distribution of the channel over cable networks is not permissible under the present permission. Therefore, the AP Government has been advised that SAPNET could consider approaching Prasar Bharati for carriage of MANA TV channel on its Free to Air DTH platform on an experimental basis.