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Title: Need to clear the proposal to amend the Cable Television Networks Regulation Act, 1995 submitted by the Government of Maharashtra-laid.

DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK (THANE): The Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal for amendment in the Cable Television Networks Regulation Act 1995. As per the provisions of the Cable Television Networks Regulation Act, 1995, a Central enactment, it is mandatory for every cable operator to get himself registered with the "Registering Authority". The Post and Telegraph Department has been prescribed as the "Registering Authority" under Rule 5 of the Act. However, there is no provision in the Central Act to check whether the cable operator has paid the duty to the State Government. Therefore, in order to enable the Registering Authority to refuse the registration or renewal of the same of those cable operators who are evading the duty, a need was felt to amend the Central Act suitably. Hence, in order to discourage the tendency of cable operators to evade the entertainment duty, a proposal to amend the said Act has been submitted by the State Government to the Central Government vide letter NO. LAA0805/CR236/T-1 dated the 20 October 2006. In this regard, no response has been received from the Central Government and the proposal is pending with the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India. As the said proposal is pending for long with Government of India, I urge upon the Government to kindly expedite the same at the earliest.