

F.No. 1/7/1-2014-PMU(DAS)
Government of India
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
A-Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

Dated the 09th February, 2015.

Subject: Minutes of the 5th meeting of the TASK Force on implementation of Digital Addressable System in Cable TV Network in Phase – III & IV held on 21.01.2015.

Please find enclosed a copy of the minutes of the 5th meeting of the TASK Force on the implementation of Phase – III & IV of Cable TV Digitization held on 21.01.2015 under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Information Broadcasting, for information and necessary action.

Encl: As above.

Anil Pathak
9.2.15
(Anil Pathak)
Assistant Engineer (DAS)
☎ 23381478

To,

[All Members of the Task Force including those present]

Copy to:

- I. PPS to Secretary, I&B
- II. PPS to Additional Secretary, I&B
- III. PPS to Joint Secretary (B-I).
- IV. Director (BP&L)
- V. Advisor (DAS)
- VI. Dy. Secretary (DAS)

MINUTES OF 5TH TASK FORCE MEETING ON IMPLEMENTATION OF DIGITAL ADDRESSABLE SYSTEM IN CABLE TV NETWORK IN PHASE III & IV HELD ON 21.01.2015

5th meeting of the Task Force on implementation of phases III & IV of digital addressable system in cable TV network was held on 21.01.2015 under the chairpersonship of Additional Secretary. Joint Secretary (B-1) and Advisor (DAS) were present in the meeting from the Ministry. List of the participants is annexed.

2. Welcoming the members, Chairperson mentioned that digitisation in phase I and phase II has been possible due to active cooperation and support of State Governments. He added that Ministry had asked State Governments and Union Territories for some nominations and data. He asked Advisor (DAS) to indicate the status.

3. Advisor (DAS) informed that:

- i. Nodal officers, both at State level and district level, were asked from State/U.T Governments but the same have been received from about 15 States/UTs.
- ii. District wise data of urban areas to be covered in phase III, with number of TV households in each, was asked from all States and UTs but it has been received from Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh.
- iii. Nomination of one LCO association from each State and UT was asked for the LCO sub-group. It has been received from Gujarat.
- iv. Nomination of an LCO association to the Task Force is awaited from the State of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

4. Chairperson directed that copies of the letters written to State Governments in this regard may be provided to the nodal officers present in the meeting today to expedite the pending nominations/data.

5. Regarding procurement plans and stock of STBs for requirements of Phase III MSOs mentioned that:

- i. They have limited inventory of STBs. Procurement of STBs is taking place as per earlier orders. No new orders have been placed by the national MSOs either with foreign suppliers or indigenous STB companies.
- ii. MSOs stated that they are making arrangements for finances for procurement of STBs for phase III. Position with regard to availability of funds would be clear by the end of February in the current financial year.
- iii. Subscription revenue from phase III and phase IV areas is expected to be between 20-30% as compared to 70-80% from phase I and phase II areas. Hence, channel pricing in phase I and phase II areas need to be decided for areas under Phase III and Phase IV so that MSOs can plan operation in these areas.

6. Representative of CEAMA stated that they had called a meeting with MSOs in Dec 2014 but the response was not good. None of the major MSOs attended this meeting. He mentioned that indigenous STB manufacturers are ready to discuss all issues with MSOs anywhere and anytime. Chairperson advised the MSOs to have a meeting with indigenous STB manufacturers to sort out all the issues. He informed that Ministry is also planning to hold a meeting with SIDBI on the demand of long term financing.

7. MSOs raised the difficulty of signing agreements with Broadcasters. Representative of TRAI stated that broadcasters cannot deny signal to MSOs once they are DAS compliant. He suggested MSOs to make a formal written request to the broadcasters for the signal as per the regulations. He added that broadcasters should enter into agreements with MSOs for distribution of content without waiting for the cutoff date.

8. Representative of Consumer forum stated that computerized billing is not happening in phase I and phase II areas. He added that CAF forms should be filled before installation of an STB.