

21 Nov'96 COFI

apprised the Minister of Information & Broadcasting, CM Ibrahim about the exploitation of operators by Pay channels who were making a backdoor entry in the country. They said many free-to-air channels were turning pay and Decoders for the same were being imported without a license and sold at exorbitant rates.

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13 Feb'97

Memorandum against proposed Broadcast Bill sent by **COFI** asking the government to control the prices and functioning of pay channels.

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2 Aug'97 COFI

sends its views to the Joint Committee of Parliament for Broadcasting Bill suggesting that a better control was required on the pay channels through CAS and price control by the government.

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3 Nov'98 COFI

writes to the I&B Minister to control pay channels as they do not adhere to the Rules of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act 1995. They suggest CAS and Addressable System for delivery of pay channels to make them accountable.

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16 Nov '99

Minister of Information and Broadcasting discussed the proposed Broadcasting Bill with the Cable operators.

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25 Sep'01

A twelve-member task force, headed by Joint Secretary (Broadcasting), Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, is constituted to examine the feasibility for introducing CAS under the guidance of Smt Sushma Swaraj.

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14 Jan'02

- I&B Minister Smt Sushma Swaraj holds a meeting with all stakeholders, broadcasters, MSO, LMO to find out preparations and readiness to implement CAS.
- Cable Operators/MSO requested to put a ceiling on prices of pay channels prevailing on 31 December, 2001. (As broadcasters have announced increase of PAY TV cost from 1st Jan 2002) till such time CAS is implemented.

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27 Feb'02

Task force submitted report to I & B Minister recommending implementation of CAS.

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15 May'02

Lok Sabha passes the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2002 for making CAS mandatory for pay channel delivery.

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23 Jul'02

Sushma Swaraj withdraws CAS Bill at 11 th hour from Rajya Sabha, to be tabled on 25th July, 2002.

24 Jul'02

Cable operators including MSOs stage a protest march on Parliament Street in Delhi on 24th July, 2002 to show their anger following the withdrawal of CAS Bill.

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10 Dec'02

Parliament finally clears the CAS Bill in the winter session.

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31 Dec'02

President KR Narayanan gives his assent to a key amendment to the Cable Network (Regulation) Act 1995, thereby mandating provision of pay TV channels only through a CAS Set Top Box.

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14 Jan'03

The Central Government notified the 15th Day of January, 2003 as the date within six months from which it shall be obligatory for every cable operator to transmit/retransmit programmes of every pay channel through an addressable system in the areas specified below, namely:-

1. Chennai Metropolitan area.
2. Municipal Council of Greater Mumbai area.
3. Kolkata Metropolitan area.
4. National Capital Territory of Delhi.

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15 Jan'03

Cable Operators of Bangalore along with Mrs. Roop Sharma celebrated rollout of CAS by opening Champaign. Industry is jubilant

15 Jan'03

Roop Sharma appeals to cable operators to help in rolling out CAS smoothly for the benefit of consumers.

29 Jan'03

Sh. Ravi Shankar Prasad takes over from Mrs. Sushma Swaraj as the new I&B

Minister.

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7 Feb'03

The first meeting of newly constituted "Task Force" to examine the various issues related to and oversee the implementation of the Conditional Access System (CAS) was held under the chairmanship of Shri Rakesh Mohan, Joint Secretary (Broadcasting).

Feb'03

Memorandum given to I&B Ministry jointly by **COFI**, CNA and NCTA for early implementation of CAS.

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27 Mar'03

The Task Force on CAS implementation, on the cable operator's instance, engages an independent agency namely ORG-Marg to conduct a survey to study the ground realities of cable operation in the metros. The findings of the survey are however rejected by the cable operators on grounds of inaccuracy.

Mar'03

In an interactive meeting of entertainment industry, organised by FICCI, Mr. Ravishankar Prasad, the I&B Minister assures the media on implementation of CAS by July 14,2003.

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8 Apr'03

Basic Service Tier prices are declared at Rs. 71.33 exclusive of taxes.

Apr'03

- Cable TV Association **COFI**, NCTA, CNA gives memorandum to I & B Minister against Rs. 72 FTA pricing channel and requested to increase it to Rs. 180.
- Thamijhaga Cable Operator General Welfare Association. (TCOA) from Tamil Nadu demands FTA pricing to be Rs. 180 instead of Rs. 72 and in assurance that MSOs should not be allowed to swallow the area of small operators.

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7 May'03

Central Government specifies the minimum number of free-to-air channels to be included in the package of channels forming the basic service tier as thirty, in the specified areas of Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai and NCR of Delhi. The package of channels forming the basic service tier must include the compulsory transmission of three Doordarshan channels notified under Section 8 of the said Act and the genres of entertainment, news, sports, children's programmes and music that must be in English, Hindi and the regional language, depending on the availability of such channels in the areas afore-mentioned. The government also specified the maximum amount which a cable operator in the afore-mentioned areas may demand from a subscriber for receiving the programmes transmitted in the basic service tier provided by such cable operator to be Rs.72/- (Rupees seventy-two) only. Free-to-air channels, over and above the basic service tier, would also be made available to the subscribers within the maximum amount mentioned above.

20 May'03

Cable Quest organises a seminar on the Conditional Access to educate and inform the industry about CAS and its impact on the business of cable operators, MSOs broadcasters and the consumers on 20th May, 2003 at Hotel Atriya in Bangalore.

28 May'03 COFI

gave a memorandum to Smt Sheila Dixit regarding implementation of CAS where some section of the media and consumer organisations are instigating the common masses against CAS on behalf of some foreign broadcasters.

29 May'03

Import duty on STBs reduced from 50.8% to 5% for a period upto 31st July, 2003.

30 May'03

Cable operators/MSO announce lucrative rental schemes for set top boxes.

31 May'03

The Maharashtra Union of Cable Operators and Control Room Owners held a day-long seminar on CAS in Pune. A resolution welcoming CAS and early implementation was passed.

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6 Jun'03

COFI organised a seminar on CAS at Hotel Park, New Delhi. All Broadcasters, Industry experts, Prasar Bharti, Doordarshan, MSOs & LMOs participated.

11 Jun'03

I&B Ministry issued an advertisement in public interest in leading newspaper regarding CAS Implementation.

14 Jun'03

COFI sent a memorandum to the Chief Minister Smt Sheila Dixit requesting her for abolishing Entertainment Tax on Cable TV Services and not to levy any Sales Tax on Set-Top-Boxes.

18 Jun'03

Zee Turner launched a "Smart Sellers" training program for cable operators in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, to educate and inform them on the advantages of CAS.

19 Jun'03

COFI gave a memorandum to Smt Sheila Dixit to save the business of last mile operator who was the Pivot-Man of the cable Industry by introducing CAS.

25 Jun'03

Excise duty comprising of countervailing duty of 16% and special additional duty of 4% waived off and basic customs duty on three main components used in STBs is reduced to 5%.

27 Jun'03

A delegation of cable operators met Mr. Madanlal Khurana on 27 June, 2003 to coax him to rethink his strategy of opposing CAS. They requested Mr. Khurana not to make CAS a political issue. He does not pay any head.

30 Jun'03

Major broadcasters except Zee made the a-la-carte rates (maximum retail prices inclusive of distribution margins) available to the government. They also suggested 'dual feed' of channels (providing pay channels both with and without STBs) and 'twilight zone' the period during which pay channel telecast without STBs would not

be a cognisable offence, which the government is considering.

Cable operators meet media advisor in the I&B Ministry and PM confidante Sudheendra Kulkarni to discuss the issues of CAS.

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1 Jul'03

Cable operators met I&B Minister and suggested giving all channels at Rs. 72 plus taxes to consumers till CAS is completely mandated. They rejected the 'dual feed' suggestion of the broadcasters, on technical and fiscal grounds. Dismiss the rates declared by broadcasters as non consumer friendly. Hint at hiking cable subscription fee at **Rs. 530 p.m.** if CAS is not implemented. Ask government to **re-think on the FTA pricing of Rs. 72** which is much below the actual operational cost of Rs. 180 which they incur.

2 Jul'03

Major broadcasters met Sudheender Kulkarni (Media Advisor to the PM, Atal Bihari Vajpayee) to discuss various aspects of CAS, particularly the price factor.

4 Jul'03

The Center defers implementation of CAS to 1st September, 2003 on account of unavailability of sufficient Set Top Boxes. The implementation is to take place zone wise and to be completed by 1st December. From 1st August, till CAS is totally mandated consumers will have to pay only Rs. 72 plus taxes for all the channels. Zee TV announces **a-la-carte** price of its channels.

5 Jul'03

While **COFI**, NCTA and CNA were satisfied with the government's decision and accepted the concessional rate in view of a smooth rollout of CAS, some Cable Operators United Forum protested the concessional rate for the initial period and instead said a sum of Rs. 180 would be charged for all the channels during the introductory period till CAS is fully implemented.

6 Jul'03

Broadcasters and cable operators differ on the duration of the concessional rate of Rs. 72 plus taxes for all channels. While a section of cable operators agreed to offer all channels for Rs. 72 plus taxes from August 1 to December 1, the broadcasters maintain the offer was restricted to a zone for the month before it was to be notified for CAS.

7 Jul'03

Unhappy with the broadcaster's reaction to the proposal of providing all channels at Rs. 72 plus taxes till CAS rollout, government says charging more than the said amount after 1st September in non-notified areas would be made punishable under the law.

9 Jul'03

A large section of cable operators, including distributors of leading MSOs met in New Delhi and rejected the Rs. 72 package either for the FTA under CAS, plus pay channels during the month long 'honeymoon period', demanding instead the original price of Rs. 180 p.m. Any delay in the CAS implementation is threatened with blackouts.

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10 Jul'03

The I&B Ministry issues a notification specifying the areas in the four metros which will be

CAS enabled in the first phase of its implementation. A cabinet meeting chaired by the Prime Minister endorses the plan for a phased CAS implementation. The Cabinet however held back an ordinance amending the Cable TV Act seeking more control over broadcasters, but sent it to the Law Ministry for a feedback.

10 Jul'03

The Central Government having been satisfied that it is necessary in public interest to do so, and in supersession of notification S.O,39(E), dated 14th January, 2003, hereby notifies the 1st day of March 2003 as the date within six months from which it shall be obligatory for every cable operator to transmit/retransmit programmes of every pay channel through an addressable system in the areas specified.

14 Jul'03

Delhi BJP Chief, Mr. Madan Lai Khurana meets PM, Atal Bihari Vajpayee demanding that CAS be implemented first in the other three metros and later in Delhi, only after it is successful there.

15 Jul'03

In a joint statement the Indian broadcasters namely Aaj Tak, Sab TV, Sahara TV, Eenadu TV and Sun TV take a stand against the government's decision on December deadline for CAS rollout. Earlier on 11th July, they had demanded for a level playing field vis a vis foreign broadcasters on matters of taxation and legal obligations.

15 Jul'03

Cable operators oppose the government FTA rate of Rs. 72 plus taxes but demand Rs. 180 plus taxes. Broadcasters fail to declare rates as had been asked by the government, they refuse to have the honeymoon period for more than a month.

17 Jul'03

The I&B Minister Sh Ravi Shankar Prasad met the Prime Minister Sh Atal Bihar Bajpai to discuss the situation of CAS.

21 Jul'03

- At a high level meeting held at the PM House, the government decided to stick to its plan of implementing CAS from September 1. The meeting was attended by senior Cabinet Ministers, Delhi BJP Chief Madan Lal Khurana, the I&B Minister Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad, Mr. L K Advani, the law Minister Mr. Arun Jaitely and BJP leaders Mr. Venkaiah Naidu and V K Malhotra.

- The Standing Committee on Information Technology under the Chairmanship of Mr. Somnath Chatterjee presented its report on CAS to the Hon'ble Speaker of the Lok Sabha. The report has criticized the government for setting an 'arbitrary' date for CAS implementation without looking into the factors required for it.

29 Jul'03

The Information and Broadcasting Minister set up an Implementation Committee for CAS on July 29th consisting of representatives from the cable and satellite industry. The committee was to look into:

- i) The availability of STBs, and their readiness for installation.
- ii) Modalities of installation including testing.
- iii) Upgradation of the infrastructure and network for implementation of CAS and steps taken to protect consumers' interest.
- iv) Availability of full information in respect of pricing of channels and the amount that cable TV subscribers will have to pay.

v) Any other issue that members of the Implementation Committee wish to raise. The panel was headed by Mr. Vijay Singh, Additional Secretary (Broadcasting) from the I&B Ministry. The committee members included: from the I&B Ministry Rakesh Mohan, Joint Secretary; Mohua Pal, Director I&B; from the broadcasters; Peter Mukherjea (Star); Kunal Dasgupta (Sony); Subhash Chandra (ZEE); G Krishnan (Aaj Tak) Raghav Bahl (CNBC-TV 18); CD Rao, Sun TV, from the MSOs; Rajiv Khattar (Siti Cable); Rajiv Vyas (Incable); - Jayaraman (Hathway); Dilip Sen (RPG Netcom) from the cable operators; Roop Sharma **COFI** Anil Parab and the representative(s) of concerned State Governments.

The Committee was to meet every week in order to monitor the progress of CAS. The committee would also interact with representatives of Consumer Protection Group and take steps to address their concerns.

29 Jul'03

The Ministry of Finance extends excise duty cut on imported set-top-boxes (STB) by two more months following the expiration of the current waiver on 31st July, 2003.

Jul'03

Tamil Nadu cable operator association requested I&B Ministry to implement CAS either from July 1st or August 1st as cable subscription is collected by 1st of every month.

Jul'03

A suggestion of "Dual Feeds" twilight zone to the consumer came up by the Broadcaster.

Jul'03

Smt. Sheila Dixit - Chief Minister of Delhi, says that she is totally confused about CAS though activity about CAS is going on for last 3 years.

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5 Aug'03

The first meeting of the implementation committee held:

1) The Additional Secretary to the I & B Ministry confirms implementation of CAS by 1st September. He emphasized on the broadcasters to declare the MRPs of their pay channels along with the margins and incentives payable to the MSOs and the Cable operators.

2) Broadcasters submitted their inability to offer their pay channels within the FTA rate for the month of August. They preferred to declare the wholesale rates of their pay channels and mentioned that tiers should be prepared by the Local cable operators. They also desired that the government should ensure that 'content' is not denied to any one, subject to the business agreement entered into.

14 Aug'03

The second meeting of the implementation committee held:

The meeting was very optimistic resolutions like a timely implementation of CAS, no backtracking including inviting the MSOs in areas where the LCOs are not prepared or non co-operative and to ensure no hike in rates in August. However there was not much development of the following unresolved issues.

a) Pay Channels rates. c) Incentive schemes for pay channels.

b) Revenue sharing agreements, d) Platform sharing among broadcasters.

24 Aug'03

All Orissa Cable TV Owners Association (AOCTOA) organised a one-day workshop of CAS even though Orissa is not notified area.

25 Aug'03

After a high level meeting it was announced by the I&B Minister that CAS would not be implemented in Delhi till the assembly elections were over as it was becoming "an object of political hostility." The other three metros would however proceed as per schedule and implement CAS by 1st September.

28 Aug'03

•The Madras High Court admitted a public interest litigation challenging the implementation of CAS in Chennai from September 1. Justice K Govindrajan, who admitted the petition from K. Surendra Kumar of T Nagar, ordered notice to the Union Ministry for I&B, Hathway Communications Pvt. Ltd. and Sumangali Cable Vision, asking them to file their reply on the petition.

• Cable Network Association moves the Delhi High Court seeking implementation of CAS in Delhi from September 1 as is being done in the other three metro cities.

• West Bengal Chief Minister, **Mr. Buddhadev Bhattacharya**, requested the Centre to defer the introduction of CAS in Kolkata and suggested the formation of committee to go into the ground level problems before starting the system.

29 Aug'03

Notification issued by the Central Government, deferring implementation of CAS indefinitely in respect of specified area in Delhi.

Aug'03

The representatives from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the regulatory body in the US, came calling on officials of the Information and Broadcasting ministry to understand the ongoing debate on CAS.

Aug'03

The Swadeshi Jagran Manch (SJM) Delhi Unit Convenor Ashwini Mahajan despite being a supporter of CAS demanded that the implementation of CAS should be delayed till there were enough set top boxes available.

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1 Sep'03

In Kolkata CAS was deferred as the State Government, seeks more time. I&B Officials say situation would be reviewed after three days.

In Mumbai too CAS is not implemented. MSOs under pressure from the Shiv Sena did not switch off signals.

In Chennai CAS does roll out. But consumer demand for STBs is low. Most viewers watch regional language channels, most of which are free to air.

15 Sep'03

I&B Ministry called for a meeting with the state officials. Setting up of State level implementation committees comprising of officials from the I&B Ministry, secretary level officers from the states, consumer groups the MSOs and law enforcement agencies.

Sep'03

Mr. Udhav Thackeray, the Sena working President said, "CAS cannot be implemented in Mumbai without the consent and support of Shiv Sena".

Oct'03

The CAS issue is being dragged into various courts of the country by various parties. The Madras High Court admitted two public interest litigations challenging the implementation of CAS in Chennai from September 1. In a complete contrast to the PIL filed in Chennai, the Cable Network Association moved the Delhi High Court seeking implementation of CAS in Delhi from 1st September as is being done in other three metros. The Citizen for Just Society, a consumer organization opposing CAS filed a petition in the Bombay High Court asking for a stay on the implementation of CAS.

4 Dec'03

The Delhi High Court after hearing four writ petitions filed by the cable fraternity asking for the nullification of the government notification dated 29th August 2003 that exempted the specified areas in Delhi from the implementation of CAS, Quashed the notification upholding CAS implementation.

15 Dec'03

CAS is implemented in South Delhi by the cable operators/MSOs

19 Dec'03

Siticable, Incable and Wincable start call centers to give CAS Information.

26 Dec'03

The Hon'ble Delhi High Court in the Civil Writ Petition number 8993 and 8994 of 2003 in its order dated the 26th December, 2003, declined to restrain the Government from implementing CAS in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and decided to review the situation after three months;

2 Jan'04

RWA joint committee in Delhi tells Government, to control **advertisements on pay TV** and rate of channels. It also held press conference in Delhi demanding a regulatory body for CAS. They blamed broadcasters for increase in rates.

4 Jan'04

Representative of Siti Cable and Hathway namely Rajeev Khattar and S N Sharma wrote a letter on "Stock Taking Report" on STB to Delhi Government.

4 Jan'04

The Cable Operators Association of Assam requested the Chief Minister of Assam, Shri Tarun Gogoi, to introduce CAS in their state too.

5 Jan'04

The Cable Operators demand resignation of the I & B Minister Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad for being unsuccessful in the implementation of CAS. **COFI** held a press conference on Monday along with NCTA.

8 Jan'04 Paramjit Singh Pamma , President of National Akali Dal, demonstrated at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi along with his fellow members in protest against advertisements on pay channels.

8 Jan'04

Ms J. Jayalalitha writes to the I & B Minister asking for withdrawal of CAS.

8 Jan'04

MSOs Win cable, Siti Cable, Trinity and IN cable in a press conference declared

that CAS is a success in South Delhi and claimed that 30,000 boxes have been seeded in the market. S.N.Sharma, Jawahar Goel, Anil Malhotra, Arun Mohan addressed the meeting.

28 Jan'04

Cable Operators in the presence of Prime Minister of India. Sh Atal Bihari Vajpayee presented the list of facts about the Broadcasters who are proving to be a big threat to their business.

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24 May'04

Sh Jaipal Reddy takes over as Minister of I & B, second time.

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25 Jul'04

COFI requested Minister of I & B to have a meeting with Chief Minister Smt Sheila Dixit to clear confusion on CAS and avoid further loss of hard money of Cable Operators & Manufacturers.

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4 Dec'04

BC Patel and Justice AK Sikri, gave a decision after hearing the writ petition filed by the cable fraternity asking for the nullification of the govt. Notification dated 27th August 2003 that specified areas of CAS Implementation.

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28 Jan'06

A memorandum for speedy implementation of CAS is submitted to the Minister of Information & Broadcasting by **COFI**.

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17 Feb'06

COFI demands a-la-carte based pricing from broadcasters and sends various reports from the US market including report from FCC, the US regulator, in support of the same to the Ministry of I & B.

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10 Mar'06

In a move that is aimed at streamlining cable operations in the country, the Delhi High Court directed the Centre to implement the Conditional Access System (CAS) for cable operators within four weeks. Mr. Justice Vikramjit Sen, while passing the order, also imposed a penalty of Rs. 1 lakh on the Centre towards damages for the Multi System Operators (MSOs) for delaying the implementation of the scheme since July 2003.

13 Mar'06

COFI objects to the remarks of I & B officials published in the media where CAS has been mentioned as "Old Technology " and "waste of resources and time".

14 Mar'06

COFI sends Memorandum to the Prime Minister complaining of Ministry of I & B's misleading media reports on the subject of CAS on Cable Television and giving undue importance to DTH instead of creating level playing field for both the technologies.

27 Mar'06

To thrash out various issues involved with implementation of the controversial Conditional Access System (CAS), the government held meeting with various stakeholders, including broadcasters and cable operators. The Marathon Meeting ' lasted for 11 hours in Samrat Hotel.

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7 Apr'06

Broadcasters boycott CAS – II meeting of I & B ministry. All the other stakeholders attending expressed their resentment.

17 Apr'06

The TRAI has sought upto eight more months time to implement the CAS in Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata in Delhi High Court.

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14 May'06

The ministry of I & B said that the TRAI is the sole regulator to decide the maximum retail price of channels under the CAS regime.

24 May'06

Delhi High Court rejected the request of I & B ministry to delay CAS implementation for eight months and ask them to submit a concrete plan by 5th July.

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23 June06

TRAI released a draft regulations on Quality of Service (QoS) for CAS area.

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11 Jul'06

Major broadcasters and cable distribution companies, including Star, Discovery, ESPN, Siti Cable and Hathway have opposed price regulation by the TRAI under the CAS regime.

13 Jul'06

Delhi high Court's Justice Vijender Jain has given the Centre two more weeks to outline the step it had taken to implement CAS in three metro cities including Delhi.

17 Jul'06

A meeting with all the stakeholders for draft regulation, proposed revenue share arrangements and proposed standard forms of Interconnection Agreements for CAS areas between Broadcasters & MSO, and between MSO & LCO was held at Trikoot – 1, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi.

19 Jul'06

Delhi High Court directed the Centre to implement the controversial CAS in the

three metros – Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai before 31stDecember 2006.

23 Jul'06

TRAI hold a meeting with all the stakeholders for draft of Quality of Service(QoS) for CAS area.

26 Jul'06

The I & B minister met with the representatives of COFI lead by Mrs Roop Sharma to discuss the speedy implementation of CAS in consumer interest at his office chamber in Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

31 Jul'06

The ministry of Information & Broadcasting issued a Notification for the implementation of Conditional Access System (CAS) in the notified areas by 31st December 2006.

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2 Aug '06

The Central Government issued a notification for implementing CAS in Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata by the end of this year. Delhi high Court ordered the government to enforce the system by 1st January 2007.

23 Aug'06

Quality of Service Regulation for CAS areas issued by TRAI .

24 Aug'06

Interconnection Agreement Regulation for CAS areas issued by TRAI .

31 Aug'06

TRAI issues final notification on CAS detailing channel pricing mechanism. Individual pay channel have been priced at Rs 5 each, no intervention in bouquet pricing. Also the notification lists out two standard tariff packages for Set Top Boxes to subscribers in CAS areas.

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20 Sep'06

The Delhi High Court refused to grant a stay as sought by Star India, on a recent notification issued by TRAI to cap the pricing of pay channels at Rs 5 when CAS rolls out in the country.

12 Oct'06

A majority of broadcasters including Star, Zee and Sony have agreed to offer their channels at an MRP of Rs 5 per month under the Conditional Access System (CAS), though some of them have individually challenged the TRAI order on pricing in various courts.

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8 Dec'06

Broadcast Regulator TRAI asked cable TV subscribers of notified area to apply immediately to cable and Multi System operators of their area for set top boxes failing which they would be denied viewing of pay channels on their TV after 31st December.

8 Dec '06

Ending all confusion, the TRAI stated that the CAS would be implemented in the notified areas of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai from the midnight of 31st December.

12 Dec'06

The Delhi High Court refused to grant more time to multi system operators for implementing Conditional Access System (CAS) and asked them to stick to the December 31 deadline for implementing the new system.

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5 Feb'07

TRAI constituted a sub – group to consider the extension and digitalization of voluntary CAS to other parts of the country.

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5 Apr'07

Cable Operators and government officials in a joint meeting agreed to mandatorily extend the Conditional Access System (CAS) to all areas of the three metros and adjoining areas including the satellite towns of these metros.

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12 Jun'07

TRAI in consultation with the cable and broadcast industry has proposed a three – phase roll out of the Conditional Access System (CAS) in 55 cities between June 2008 to June 2011.

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4 Oct'07

TRAI issued 2nd Tariff Order for Non – CAS areas applicable from 1stDecember 2007. This will divide country into three categories where prices will range between Rs 77 to Rs 260.

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27 Dec'07

TRAI recommended to the government to introduce the CAS for the cable TV networks in 55 cities of the country in phases, over a three year time frame, from October 2008 to September 2011.

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15 Jan'08

TDSAT refused to grant stay on the appeal in which the broadcasters had challenged the implementation of the tariff order of 4th October 2007 of TDSAT as per which they are required to provide all their channels on a – la – carte basis in a non discriminatory manner and declare the a – la – carte rates to MSOs / Cable Operators for such channels in non – CAS areas.

18 Jan'08

TRAI placed the filings by the broadcasters regarding a – la – carte rates and

bouquet rates of their pay channels in Non – CAS areas on its website.

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17 Mar'08

I & B ministry held a meeting with MSOs and Broadcasters to discuss the extension of CAS in four metros, New Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai and rest of the country.

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1Dec'08

TRAI issued a Consultation Paper on Quality of Service (QoS) issues for cable TV services in Non – CAS areas and DTH services.

8Dec'08

ESPN has written to the TRAI that it will provide its bouquet of channels to DTH operators at 50 percent of the Non – CAS rates.

26 Dec'08

TRAI announced an increase of about 7 % in cable rates, for CAS notified and non – CAS areas from 1st January'09.

31 Dec'08

TRAI extends the time for receiving comments on the Consultation Paper on Quality of Service issues for Cable TV Services in Non – CAS areas and for DTH Services.

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24Feb'09

TRAI issued the Standards of Quality of Service (Broadcasting and Cable Services in Non – CAS Areas) regulations of 2009.

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