

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4356
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2019)**

CABLE DIGITIZATION

4356. SHRI GAUTAM GAMBHIR

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the actual number of cable television subscribers in India;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with its effects on the revenue of the Government; and**
- (c) whether the accurate number of subscribers may be known with complete digitization and if so, the current status of digitization?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND
MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)**

(a) to (c): With the implementation of Digital Addressable System in the country, every Multi-System Operator (MSO)/Local Cable Operator (LCO) is required to install a Subscriber Management System (SMS) which records, inter-alia, number of subscribers with the respective MSO/LCO. As per the seeding data available from MSOs/LCOs, the number of subscribers of Cable TV as on 30.11.2019 is approx.11.70 Crore. 18% GST is applicable on Cable TV Networks on subscriber fee, which is revenue to the Government.

Accurate number of subscribers would be known on completion of cable TV Digitization across the country. However, hundred percent Digitization of Cable TV Network has been achieved in Phase-I(4 metro cities), Phase-II (38 cities with population of more than 10 lacs) and Phase-III (All other urban areas Municipal Corporation/ Municipalities). In Phase-IV (Rest of India), it is about more than 90% at present.
