

# **TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA**

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**PRESS RELEASE No. 11/ 2005**

## **Sub: Set Top Boxes for ASC Enterprises' DTH Service**

A reference regarding deployment of non-BIS compliant STB's by M/s. ASC Enterprises in their DTH Services, was received in Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). In terms of the conditions of License, deployment of open architecture BIS compliant Set Top Boxes is necessary. Some of the Set Top Boxes in use by the subscribers of ASC Enterprises DTH Service were reported to have been found Non BIS compliant.

The evidence received was examined and a hearing was given to ASC Enterprises. It was noted that though it would have been better if ASC Enterprises had ensured activation of only BIS compliant STBs, there are difficulties at the ground level in implementation of the condition and a mid course corrective action had been taken by ASC Enterprises in the form of amending subscriber's agreement for ensuring BIS compliant STBs. M/s. ASC Enterprises had pointed out the fact that non BIS compliant STBs are available in the market at cheaper prices compared to BIS compliant boxes supplied by the Licensee or its distributors. Keeping the above and willingness to replace the non-compliant STBs in use by its subscribers and also the fact that an optional rental scheme for STBs providing for commercial interoperability of STBs is in force, TRAI required ASC Enterprises to roll out a ticker in their information channel giving the details about the replacement scheme for non BIS compliant boxes and also to issue a Press Release.

ASC Enterprises have reported that they had rolled a ticker in their information channel and a Press Release about the replacement Scheme was issued on 26.12.2004. This could not get priority due to coverage of Tsunami Tragedy. Accordingly a fresh press release was issued on 5.1.2005. They have confirmed that the replacement scheme for Non BIS compliant STBs in

use by their DISH TV subscriber with BIS Compliant STB is without any cost to the subscriber and so far 9 subscribers have opted for replacement of non BIS compliant STBs.

Any subscriber of DTH service of ASC Enterprise and using a non-compliant STB can contact the nearest dealer or call at 1600-12-3474 to avail of the scheme for replacement of non BIS compliant Set Top Box. This facility will be available till 28.2.2005.