

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1403
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2003
NEW TARIFF
PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether TRAI has recently announced new tariffs for different categories of land-line, WLL and cell phone users;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the actual impact of the recommendations on subscribers, particularly those in rural areas covered by village panchayats;
- (d) whether the Government have accepted the new rates fixed by TRAI; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SRI MATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

- (a) Yes, Sir. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) vide its 24th amendment to Telecom Tariff Order (TTO) 1999, has announced new tariffs on 24th January 2003 in respect of land-line, WLL and cell phones which will come into effect from 01.04.2003
- (b) The details of the major items of tariff for land-lines, WLL (limited mobility) and cellular service are in the Annexure.
- (c) The actual impact of TRAI's recent tariff on subscribers is not known as the tariff is to come into effect from 01.04.2003.
- (d) & (e): As per the TRAI Act 1997, as amended in 2000, the power of tariff fixation for telecom services is mandated to the TRAI, which is now the only Authority for exercising this power. Service providers (including PSUs), however, have the flexibility of making their own tariff packages within the ceilings/floors prescribed by TRAI.

ANNEXURE

I TARIFF FOR LAND LINES

A. RURAL RENTAL (Monthly in Rupees)

Capacity of local Exchange (no. of lines) PROPOSED by TRAI

Sr.Citizen Others

Upto 999	70	70
1000-29,999	120	120
30,000-99,999	180	200
1 lakh and above	250	280

B. URBAN RENTAL (Monthly in Rupees)

Capacity of local Exchange (no. of lines) PROPOSED by TRAI

Sr.Citizen Residential Subscribers

Upto 29,999	120	120
30,000-99,999	180	200
1 lakh and above	250	280

C. NUMBER OF FREE CALL (Per Month)

Proposed By TRAI

Rural	50
Urban	30

D. CALL CHARGES (in Rupee, per metered call)

Proposed By TRAI

Rural	Urban
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0-50 Free	0-30 Free
51-300 @ 0 .80	31-300 @ 1.00
>300 @ 1.20	>300 @ 1.20

E. Puls Rate (in Seconds)

Proposed By TRAI

Calls to basic service network	120
Calls to cellular (Metro Area)	90
Calls to cellular (Circle Area)	60

II WLL (Limited mobility)

Item	Proposed by TRAI
Monthly rent	Rs. 200 per Month
Free calls	Nil
Call charges	Forbearance, subject to no charge for incoming calls

III. CELLULAR :

Forbearance for rental and airtime for outgoing calls, provided that every service provider shall specify a monthly rental and airtime charge per minute with a pulse duration of 30 seconds, as a 'Reference Tariff Package of the Service Provider'

No airtime charge for incoming calls.