

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5923
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2005
MISLEADING ADVERTISEMENTS BY PRIVATE COMPANIES
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh

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

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that some of the private Telecom operators have violated regulations by their misleading advertisements, which create the impression that their fixed wireless phones are similar to mobile services;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government against these operators; and
- (c) the details of the disputed cases pending against these operators in the Telephone Dispute Settlement Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) and the stand taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On receipt of the complaints, Show Cause Notices were issued to the concerned operator with instructions to immediately withdraw such advertisements. Further, a clarification was issued by the Government on 23rd March, 2005. Vide this clarification, it was stated that the terminal used for Fixed Wireless Terminal should be strictly confined to the premises where the connection is registered. It was further reiterated that separate levels should be used for wireless and fixed wireless services. Wherever such restriction cannot be carried out or adhered to the connection will be invariably treated as WLL (M). It is the responsibility of the licensee to ensure the compliance.

(c) So far these operators have not filed any case against the Government in TDSAT. The petition filed against the directions of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India was dismissed as withdrawn.