

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6775
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2005
DISCONTINUATION OF CALLING CARDS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

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

(a) whether the TRAI has issued any direction to VSNL regarding discontinuation of various calling cards of `Tata Indicom Outbound Prepaid Calling Cards`; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the loss, if any, expected due to the said decision of the TRAI?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) TRAI issued a Direction to VSNL under Section 13 read with Section 11 (1) (b)

(i) and

(iv) of the TRAI Act 1997 to stop the sale of the various `Tata Indicom Outbound Prepaid Calling Cards` immediately and the sale of cards can be continued only after obtaining the approval of licensor. No interim relief was granted by Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) against the direction of TRAI. There is no question of loss for the activity which, in the opinion of TRAI, is not as per the terms and conditions of Licence.