

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4699

ANSWERED ON:09.05.2007

INTERNATIONAL LONG DISTANCE TELECOM OPERATORS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

(a) whether the TRAI has proposed for imposing an entry fee and bank guarantee of the same amount for the operators to be allowed for buying Bulk Bandwidth for International Long Distance Telecom Companies as reported in the Times of India dated March 24, 2007;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether TRAI has recommended not to fix any ceiling on the number of players in the segment to encourage new companies to get into this business and help reducing prices for retail consumers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) Sir, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued recommendations on terms and conditions for Resale in International Private Leased Circuits (IPLC) segment on 23rd March 2007. TRAI has recommended entry fee and financial bank guarantee of Rs. 1 Crore each without any ceiling on the number of entrants for the proposed category. The recommendations are under consideration by the Department at present.