

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2283  
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007  
CONSTITUTION OF MULTI-DISCIPLINARY PANEL  
Khairi Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

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

- (a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) recommended that there should be no cap on the number of service providers in any circle and suggested the constitution of multi-disciplinary panel, as reported in the Hindustan Times dated August 30, 2007;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) the salient features of the panel alongwith the scope/work assigned to it; and
- (d) the manner in which common man is likely to be benefited?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), in its recommendation dated 28.8.2007 on "Review of license terms & conditions and capping of number of access providers" has inter-alia, recommended that there should be no cap on the number of access provider in any service area and constitution of a multi-disciplinary committee to frame a new spectrum allocation criteria.

On 7.11.2007, Government has constituted a Committee to recommend revised subscriber based spectrum allocation criterion for allocation of spectrum in a scientific and practicable manner.

No capping on the number of access provider in any service area will increase the level of competition between service providers resulting in reduction of tariff, better customer services, network coverage, and service quality.