

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3777

ANSWERED ON:19.04.2010

IDENTIFICATION OF SUBSCRIBERS

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

- (a) whether the Private Telephone Operators have been unable to verify the identity and other credentials of subscribers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has filed any criminal cases against the private cellular service providers for flouting the said rules;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the penalty imposed on telecom companies during the above period, company-wise; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

(a) & (b): During verification audit, it is found that some of the subscribers have been enrolled by mobile service providers without proper verification of identity and other credentials of subscribers. As per license condition, the Service Providers are required to ensure adequate verification of each and every customer before enrolling him as subscriber. The Telecom Enforcement, Resource & Monitoring (TERM) Cells of Department of Telecommunications carry out monthly sample audit on subscriber verification. The percentage of passed samples during the Audit by TERM Cell on Photo, Identity, Address(PIA) basis during the last three years is given as under:-

Year Approximate % of passed samples

2007 81%

2008 84%

2009 91%

(c) to (e): Department of Telecommunications has not registered any criminal case against private cellular service providers in the matter, however approx. 160 cases have come to the notice where criminal cases have been registered by respective State Govt. Agencies against the distributor/retailer of Cellular Service Provider or against individuals in this matter for the said period. The details of penalty imposed on telecom service provider, during the last three years are given in Annexure-I & Annexure-II.