

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:277
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2010
INCREASE IN CAPACITY OF MOBILE TOWERS
Semmalai Shri S. ;Singh Shri Bhupendra

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

- (a) the criteria governing installation of mobile towers in various parts of the country;
- (b) whether there is a proposal to augment the capacity of the existing mobile towers for improving the quality of services in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES AND COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 277 FOR 29TH NOVEMBER, 2010 REGARDING "INCREASE IN CAPACITY OF MOBILE TOWERS".

(a) Madam, Mobile Towers are being installed by the Telecom Service Providers and Infrastructure Providers Category-1 based on their Radio Frequency Network Planning and after obtaining siting clearances from Wireless Planning and Coordination (WPC) Wing of Department of Telecommunications (DoT). WPC issues siting clearance for installation of mobile towers for each and every site from the point of view of interference with other wireless users, aviation hazards and obstruction to any other existing microwave links. The siting clearance is issued without prejudice to applicable byelaws, rules and regulations of local bodies such as Municipal Corporation/Gram Panchayat etc.

Further, as per terms and conditions of Unified Access Service license, the licensee is required to ensure that the telecommunication installation carried out by it should not become a safety hazard and is not in contravention of any statute, rule or regulation and public policy.

Accordingly, before installation of towers, Service providers are required to obtain necessary clearances from concerned Municipal Authorities/local bodies, wherever required. State Governments/Municipal Authorities have formulated their own policy for grant of permission for installation of mobile towers stipulating structural safety norms and levy/fee etc.

(b) to (d) To augment the capacity of mobile towers, DoT has already issued guidelines on 2nd April, 2008 facilitating sharing of infrastructure among Telecom Service Providers and Infrastructure Providers Category-1. As per the guidelines, sharing of active infrastructure limited to antenna, feeder cable, Node B, Radio Access Network and transmission system only is permitted amongst Telecom Service Providers based on mutual agreements entered amongst them. Infrastructure Providers Category-1 are directed to set up the tower capable of catering to the requirement of minimum three Telecom Service Providers sharing the infrastructure for provision of mobile services.