

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4310

ANSWERED ON:06.12.2010

CHARGES BY TELECOM COMPANIES

Ganeshamurthi Shri A.;Saroj Smt. Sushila;Tagore Shri Manicka;Upadhyay Seema

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

- (a) whether some kind of hidden charges have been charged on various schemes by the mobile phone service providers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of companies;and
- (c) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

(a) to (c) Regulation of Tariff has been mandated to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) vide the TRAI Act of 1997. As per TRAI, it has taken a number of measures to promote transparency in the offer of services in the interest of protecting consumers. These include the issue of Regulations, Directions, Orders and Advisories from time to time and this is an ongoing process.

Compliance with the Regulations, Directions, Orders mandated by the Authority are closely monitored. All tariff schemes implemented by the operators are reported to TRAI within 7 days from the date of launch as per the provisions of Telecommunication Tariff Order. These tariff schemes / packages are subjected to scrutiny.

Tariff Plans / Packages that are found to be potentially misleading and / or lacking in transparency are intervened and the service providers are asked to re-structure the same in line with the existing regulatory mandates. In addition, as and when instances of deviations from the prescribed guidelines on transparency are brought to the notice of TRAI by way of complaints, media reports etc., the matter is taken up with the concerned service providers for remedial action. Further, with a view to review the need for further transparency measures in tariff offers, the Authority has issued a consultation paper titled 'Certain issues relating to telecom tariffs' on 13th October, 2010 seeking views of stakeholders.