GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5464 ANSWERED ON:13.12.2010 PAYMENT OF RENEWAL FEE Sugumar Shri K.

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

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had recently proposed that operators should be asked to pay a renewal fee, if they want to continue to offer services at the end of the licence period;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps 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) Madam, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), in its recommendations dated 11.05.2010 on'Spectrum Management and Licensing Framework', has inter-alia recommended that "on renewal,the UAS licensee will be required to pay a Renewal fee which will be Rs. 2 crore for Metro and 'A' Circles, Rs. 1 Crore for 'B circles and Rs. 0.5 crore for C' circles. This renewal fee does not cover the value of spectrum, which shall be paid for separately". TRAI has further, on 18.05.2010, requested the Government to await its recommendations on spectrum pricing and reframing. The Government has already constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Member (Technology), Telecom Commission to examine these recommendations. Being a matter of policy formation, which also requires inter-ministerial consultations, it is not feasible to specify a time frame.