

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5465

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2010

SUPPLY OF TELECOM EQUIPMENT

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

- (a) whether the radiation levels emitted by mobile handsets and telecom towers and the pollution generated by generators is too high in the country;
- (b) if so, whether foreign telecom equipment suppliers are not adhering to international norms while supplying equipment to the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the monitoring mechanism that exists if any, in the country;and
- (d) 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 (d) No, Madam. As per the Access Service license amendment dated 4.11.2008, all the mobile telephone service providers are required to conform to the limits of radiation as prescribed by International Commission on Non Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). Latest detailed instructions, issued by Department of Telecommunications (DoT) vide letter dated 8.4.2010, mandates that all Base Station Transceivers (BTSs) should be self certified by the telecom service providers as meeting the radiation norms by 15.11.2010. If a site fails to meet the Electro Magnetic Radiation criterion, a penalty of Rs.5 lakh is to be levied per BTS per service provider.

Accordingly, self certifications have been submitted by the telecom service providers for more than 4,16,000 BTS that the radiation level are within the ICNIRP prescribed limits. Telecom Enforcement Resource & Monitoring (TERM) Cells of DOT have started verification of radiation level of the BTS and all the BTSs checked so far have been found to be conforming to ICNIRP norms.

For mobile handsets too, DoT has adopted ICNIRP norms imposing basic restrictions in terms of SAR (Specific Absorption Rate) value limiting to 2 Watt/Kg localized for head and trunk in the frequency range of 10 MHz to 10 GHz. Mobile handsets, being manufactured in the country as well as being imported is to comply these norms. Instructions in this regard have already been issued to manufacturers.

Further, a laboratory is being setup in the Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) under DoT for testing of SAR value of mobile handsets being manufactured/imported in India.

The installed generator sets have to comply with the approved emission and noise norms of Central Pollution Control Board.

All the equipments inducted in telecom network have to adhere to international norms. As per terms and conditions of the telecom license, the licensee shall use technology/network equipment, that meets the relevant International Telecommunication Union (ITU)/Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) standards /other International Standards Organization/bodies/Industry.