

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:356
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2011
PREPAID CONNECTION IN NER
Patil Shri A.T. Nana

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

- (a) whether due to re-verification of prepaid mobile connections in North Eastern States, mobile connections of subscribers have been disconnected in large number;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the mobile service provider companies requested to the Government to extend time limit for re-verification; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

- (a) Madam, some of the Licensees in the North Eastern States have reported that mobile connections of subscribers have been disconnected due to re-verification.
- (b) A total of 40,817 numbers of mobile connections have been disconnected in Assam and 83,972 numbers have been disconnected in North East Service Area.
- (c) Madam, the Mobile Service Providers have represented through letter dated 21.01.2011 of Apex Advisory Council for Telecom in India (ACT), {A Joint Industry Initiative supported by Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) and Association of United Telecom Service Providers of India (AUSPI)}, to provide six months time for re-verification.
- (d) The Government had already allowed vide instructions dated 20.07.2010 the re- verification of the subscriber by Telecom Service Providers of Assam and North East Service Areas before the due date for recharge of pre-paid connections. While extending the permission for pre-paid mobile services till 31.03.2011, the instructions dated 20.07.2010 also stand extended upto 31.3.2011.