GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2278
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MOBILE PORTABILITY
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received from mobile users for change of operator under the Mobile Number Portability (MNP) in the country till February 2011, State-wise;

(b) the number of mobile users who have switched over to other operators after the introduction of MNP so far;

(c) whether the MNP has intensified the competition among the operators;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) whether some service providers are preventing the subscribers from availing the facility or delaying the process of porting; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

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

(a) Madam, since the launch of MNP Service till 28th February 2011, total 38,33,038 requests for porting were received by the MNP Service Providers. The State-Wise/Service Area wise details are given in the Annexure.

(b) Total 29,78,518 subscribers have ported their mobile numbers using MNP Service so far.

(c) & (d) Madam, MNP allows the subscribers to retain their existing mobile telephone number when they switch from one access service provider to another irrespective of mobile technology or from one technology to another of the same or any other access service provider. Thus, it is expected to act as a catalyst to increase the competition. The market forces will decide the level of increased competition due to MNP.

(e) & (f) Madam, as per the feedback received from the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and subscribers, some problems have been noted in porting the numbers. In general, the reasons for problems in porting are:

(i) Port-out request are rejected by Donor stating the reason as less than 90 days of activation even though numbers have worked for more than 90 days.

(ii) Non-disconnection of ported-out number and non-updation of Number Portability Database by the Donor in case of successfully ported-out numbers.

(iii) Rejection of port-out request by Donor under contractual obligations.

(iv) Delayed generation/non-generation of Unique Porting Code (UPC) due to failure of UPC generation system.

A close watch on the matter is being kept by the Telecom Enforcement Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cells and based on the feedbacks received from TSPs/subscribers; the TSPs have been called for meetings to resolve the issues. In addition, TRAI has also sought compliance of various provisions of "The Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability Regulations, 2009 as amended" from the TSPs.