

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1988
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2009
INCOME FROM BUNDLING HANDSETS
Ray Shri Rudramadhab

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

- (a) whether Department of Telecom has sought clarification from various private telecom companies for not showing income from bundling handsets alongwith the connections, for the purpose of calculating revenue share payable to the exchequer;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any examination has been conducted in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the total revenue loss during the current year; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to recover the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

- (a) Yes, Sir. Department of Telecommunications had sought clarification from Bharti Airtel, Vodafone Essar and Idea Cellular for not showing income from bundling handsets along with the connections, for the purpose of calculating revenue share payable to the exchequer.
- (b) The Operators have responded that they are not selling handsets directly and hence there is no revenue earned under this head. The same is being done through handset vendors or their agents.
- (c) to (f) The reply of the telecom operators as at (b) is also a subject matter of the special audit. The report is awaited.