

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1393
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2011
ALLOTMENT OF MOBILE NUMBERS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of mobile numbers, allotted to various telecom companies, are not in use;
- (b) if so, the details of such mobile phone numbers with each service provider;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to levy fee/charge on allotment of telephone numbers to telecom operators for the effective utilisation of the allotted numbers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to make proper utilisation of these numbers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)

- (a) Madam, new mobile number range is allotted to telecom licensees based on a criteria of status of utilization of already allocated mobile number series.
- (b) The details of mobile phone numbers allocated to various service providers is given in the Annexure-I.
- (c) & (d) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has not suggested to levy fee on allotment of telephone numbers to telecom operators. Also, the Government has no proposal at present to charge fee from the service providers.
- (e) Earlier, the criteria for allocation of numbering series to telecom operators was based on customer base as per HLR (Home Location Register) figures. As per this criteria, the new mobile numbering series was allocated when the customer base of a licensee (as per HLR figure) exceeded 60% of the already allocated mobile numbers.

To ensure more efficient utilization of mobile numbers, the allocation criteria has now been based on customers base as per VLR (Visitor Location Register) figures.