

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1112
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2009
AMENDMENT TO TRAI ACT
Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami

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

- (a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act, which came into being in 1997, has several shortcomings;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to make amendments to the provisions of the said Act to remove the shortcomings?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Based on the past experience, certain amendments in the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act, 1997 viz. definition of certain words or expression, functions of TRAI, powers of TRAI to call for information, penalty for contravention of directions of TRAI, powers to make rules, etc. have been proposed for inter-ministerial consultation. Government has not so far taken any decision in this regard. However, a Bill to amend section 4 of the TRAI Act regarding qualification to appointment of Chairperson and other Members of TRAI has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 15.12.2008.