GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:147 ANSWERED ON:08.08.2012 LOCATION BASED SERVICE SYSTEM

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

- (a) whether in the aftermath of Mumbai terror attack, the licence agreements of telecom operators has been amended and all mobile service providers urged to put in place a system for location based service;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the service providers who have implemented the system and these still to follow the new system;
- (c) whether mobile phone service providers have expressed their reservations/objections and sought the active role of TRAI to resolve the issue;
- (d) if so, the details of objections raised and difficulties experienced by them in implementation of this system; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) Yes Madam. Mobile Telecom Service Providers have been asked through license amendment dated 31.05.2011 to provide location accuracies as per the following stipulations:

Location Details:

(i) The Licensee shall provide location details of mobile customers in the License service area as per below mentioned time frame from the date of issue of this amendment and accuracy. It should be a part of CDR in the form of longitude and latitude, besides the co-ordinate of the cell sites, which is already one of the mandated fields of CDR.

Accuracy in Percentage

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Distance Urban (More Sub - Urban & Rural Remote in Meters than 1 million mobiles in a municipal limit)

1 year 2 years 1 year# 2 years 3 years 2 years 3 years

50 30 50
100 60 75 50 60 - 300 80 95 50 60 70 50 60 500 60 70 80 60 70
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Applicable for the state of J&K, Assam and NE region.

- (ii) To start with these details will be provided for specified mobile numbers. However, within a period of 3 years location details shall be part of CDR for all mobile calls.
- Note 1: Depending upon the technological development the limits of accuracy could be modified any time in future.
- (b) The service providers are at various stages of implementing the mandated accuracies. However, no service provider has been

able to complete the work and send final compliance.

- (c) & (d) Mobile Service Providers had asked for certain clarifications, which have been provided to them. Telecom service providers have been raising the issue of financing the implementation of these. However, it has been indicated that the system has to be implemented by TSPs at their cost. They have also raised the question of implementability of the stipulated accuracy levels. Information regarding whether they have raised any issues with TRAI is being collected.
- (e) The issue is being examined by TEC, the technical arm of the department. Suitable decision will be taken after the receipt of the report from TEC.