

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1794
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2012
AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS OF TELECOM COMPANIES
Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni

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

- (a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has proposed to audit the accounts of certain private telecommunication companies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, company-wise and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the auditors have submitted its report to the Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

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

(a)&(b) Madam, `Director General of Audit, Post & Telecommunications (DGP&T) who works under the aegis of Comptroller and Auditor General of India, vide its letter dated 23.2.2010, had requested for calling the accounting records of M/s Airtel, Reliance, Vodafone and Tata for all the services they offer under licenses issued from Department of Telecommunications (DoT) for auditing the books of accounts of these private service providers. As per DGAP&T, the audit was aimed at giving a reasonable assurance to the Government on the correctness of the revenue share due from the licensees.

(c) to (e) As per request of DGAP&T, DoT had requested the above mentioned service providers to provide their accounting records. These service providers impugned the said DoT communication in the petitions filed before the Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT). In the said matter, TDSAT pronounced its judgement on 10.2.2011 and Department of Telecom has appealed against the said TDSAT order before the Hon`ble Supreme Court of India. The matter is subjudice at present.