

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2598

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2013

TOWERS ALONG BORDER BY NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

Choudhary Shri Harish;Singh Shri Bhupendra ;Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

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

- (a) whether the neighbouring telecom companies particularly of China and Pakistan have made their presence and set up a large number of mobile towers along the Indian border;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether in addition to spillage of mobile signals, the presence of such companies pose a serious security threat as the equipments installed by them could be used for espionage;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the details of mobile towers installed by the Government on border areas in various States including Rajasthan to counter the moves of neighbouring countries and provide better signal quality?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Inputs indicate that the Mobile towers have been set up by 'U' Fone, 'Telenor' and 'Yuang' mobile service providers inside Pak territory.

(c) to (e) The spill over of mobile signals from foreign countries enable the use of mobile SIM cards of corresponding countries from within the territory of India without having to pass through Indian Telecom Service Providers and thus such communications can not be monitored.

Prior to July 2008, No service zone of 500 Meters width along the International border within Indian territory for wireless/ mobile service was there. Vide letter dated 11-07-2008 Department of Telecom (DoT) has lifted the restriction and accordingly TSPs are permitted to deploy their telecom equipments in border areas including Pak and China border, as per their techno-commercial interests, however, they have to ensure that their radio signal(s) fade out or become unusable within a reasonable distance across such borders. Proposals in this respect are not required to be sent to the Government.