

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3808
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2009
COMPLIANCE BY TELECOM OPERATORS
Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently called a meeting of various private telecom service providers in the country;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the telecom service providers are not following the directives/guidelines issued by the Government;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Meetings were held with Access Service Licensees, National Long Distance Service Licensees, International Long Distance Service Licensees, Internet Service Providers in the first week of November, 2009. Suggestions of the service providers were invited for the various measures which inter-alia include:

- (i) Steps to increase tele-density, specifically rural tele-density.
- (ii) Measures for more effective utilization of Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund.
- (iii) Measures to be taken for faster Internet and Broadband coverage especially in rural areas.
- (iv) Incentives for lower tariff for expansion of telecom services.

(c) to (e) While various service providers, generally, follow the directives/guidelines/ terms and conditions of the licence, however necessary action is taken as per the provisions of the licences granted to various service providers under section 4 of the Indian Telegraph Act in case of any non-compliance.