

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4051

ANSWERED ON:23.12.2015

Location based Services

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

(a) whether Union Government has amended all licence agreements of cellphone service providers asking them to implement Location Based Services (LBS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether operators have raised multiple issues, including costs and technical feasibility of achieving the requirements specified by the DoT;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) whether the service providers have sought the intervention of TRAI in the matter and have requested financial help in this regard and if so, the response of the Union Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b) The Government have issued the amendment to various telecom licenses (i.e. Access Services, National Long Distance and International Long distance Services licenses on 31.05.2011 and Internet Service Providers & VSAT service providers on 03.06.2011) for implementation of Location Based Services (LBS) as detailed below:

<PRE>

Distance in Meters Accuracy in Percentage

Urban

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

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.

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.

(c) to (e) The Telecom Service Providers have raised issues related with costs and technical feasibility to which clarifications indicating a phased implementation, technology neutrality and no cost sharing by Government have been issued by the department as given below:

i) LBS requirements were already mandated by the government with an accuracy of 100 meters gradually to be reduced to 50 meters. However, after critical examination and considering the international scenario, technological developments and available solutions, the LBS requirements have been prescribed in phased manner vide amendment dated 31.5.2011.

ii) LBS is a known commercial service product, and therefore, it will not be possible to distinguish between the commercial use and security. Hence, there cannot be any cost sharing by Government. The TSPs may opt out of available solutions or combination of them to implement a cost effective solution, which achieves the stated objectives.