

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 40  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2018**

**ILLEGAL TARIFF OFFERS BY TSPs**

40. SHRI B.V. NAIK:  
SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) are luring customers by resorting to predatory pricing and illegal tariffs and restricting customers from shifting from one TSP to another and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has noticed any such illegal offers being resorted to by TSPs and if so, the details thereof and the response of the TRAI thereto; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government against such erring TSPs?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &  
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)**

(a) to (c) As per the existing tariff framework, tariff for telecommunication access service is under forbearance except for National Roaming and Rural Fixed Line Services. TSPs have flexibility to design their products to suit consumer demand and fix tariffs for these products so as to attract customers. There are a large number of tariff schemes offered by various competing TSPs in different service areas which are permitted in tariff forbearance framework. TRAI does receive complaints from various stakeholders including TSPs regarding tariff being discriminatory, non-transparent, and predatory. Such complaints are examined and action is taken in accordance with relevant rules, regulations and orders.

\*\*\*\*\*