

MTNL Mumbai has entered into an agreement with TATA AIG to offer one year life insurance scheme to its customers on experimental basis. Personal accident insurance coverage amount is Rs.50,000/- with the validity for a period of one year from the date of allotment of Group Policy Account (GPA) number on consent basis. Scheme is applicable to individuals post paid (both existing and new) subscribers of GSM, CDMA and landline customers, within age group of 18-65 years. No such scheme has been introduced by MTNL in Delhi.

Telephone Services in rural areas

†2656. SHRI JAIPARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether almost all private basic telecom operators have failed to fulfil their commitments regarding providing telephone services in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is contemplating to make the provisions of agreements regarding IT and communications more stringent; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) and (b) All the Basic Private Service Operators (BPSOs), who had roll-out obligation for providing Village Public Telephones (VPTs) on the basis of old licenses, have migrated to Unified Access Service License (UASL) in November, 2003. According to the guidelines of UASL, there is no requirement of mandatory coverage of rural areas by the licensees. However, all telecom service providers except value added service providers like Internet Service Providers (ISPs), Voice Mail and E-Mail etc. are contributing Universal Service Levy (USL) @ 5% of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) for meeting Universal Service Obligation. The requirement of access in rural areas is now met from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

No Call Registry

2657. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

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

(a) whether Supreme Court has given any directions to the TRAI regarding undesired calls to consumers despite being registered under "No Call Registry";

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether mobile companies have expressed their unwillingness to implement the directives of TRAI to control undesired calls; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.