

Illegal mobile towers

†2164. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are a large number of illegal towers in the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government proposes to check it;
- (c) if so, whether Government is aware of revenue loss thereby;
- (d) if so, the action taken against companies installing illegal mobile towers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT) : (a) to (f) Sir, as per sitting clearance issued by the Ministry, there are no illegal mobile towers in the country. Wireless Planning and Coordination Wing of Department of Telecommunications (DoT) issues sitting clearance for installation of mobile towers for each and every site from the point of view of interference with other wireless users, aviation hazards and obstruction to any other existing microwave links.

However, apart from above permission from DoT for establishment of towers, the licensee company is also required to obtain the permission from the concerned local bodies/authorities in terms of Section 10(c) and 12 of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. DoT is not maintaining any record of such permission obtained from local bodies/authorities by the licensee and levies paid in this regard.

Further, as per terms and conditions of the Cellular Mobile Telephone Service/Unified Access Service license and Infrastructure Provider Category-I registration, the responsibility of obtaining permission/Right of Way from local bodies/authorities, for establishing towers, lies with the telecom service providers/Infrastructure Provider Category-I.

Licence fee structure

†2165. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:
DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

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

- (a) whether the Department of Telecommunications is contemplating for a uniform fee system in place of present 6 to 10 per cent licence fee structure by telecom service providers;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.