

Accordingly, the self certifications are being submitted by the telecom service providers to respective TERM Cells. As on date, there are 5,74,025 Base Transmitting Stations (BTS) out of which the self certifications have been submitted by the service providers to the respective TERM Cells for 4,66,052 BTSs. TERM Cells have carried out the testing of radiation levels for 1360 BTSs and found that the radiations levels are in compliance of ICNIRP prescribed levels in all the tested BTSs.

For the mobile handsets, DoT, vide letter no. 18-10/2008-IP dated 01.09.2008, has notified for compliance of Mobile Handsets being manufactured in India as well as the handsets being imported to conform to ICNIRP prescribed Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) limit of 2 W/kg localized for head and trunk in the frequency range of 10 MHz to 10 GHz. Mobile handsets manufacturers have to indicate the level of radiation on the product itself and to clearly communicate the potential danger of mobile phones radiation and exposure.

Further, DoT has also decided to set-up a laboratory in the Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) for testing of SAR value of mobile handsets imported/manufactured in India.

To examine the effect of EMF Radiation from base stations and mobile phones, DoT has constituted an Inter-ministerial committee consisting of officers from DoT, Indian Council of Medical Research, Ministry of Health, Department of Biotechnology and Ministry of Environment and Forest.

Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) in its report has indicated that most of the laboratory studies were unable to find a direct link between exposure to radio frequency radiation and health; and the scientific studies as yet have not been able to confirm a cause-and-effect relationship between radio frequency radiation and health. The effect of emission from cell phone towers is not known yet with certainty. Further, the committee has also suggested certain safeguards. The IMC report has been placed on the DoT website for feedback from stakeholders.

#### **Starting of 197 service**

†986. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has formulated a policy for starting 197 service for licence and mobile phones of all the private operators on the lines of MTNL's 197 service;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when this service will be started; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) In view of (a) above, question of starting 197 service for the subscribers of all the private operators does not arise.

#### **Raising of price of 2G spectrum**

987. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether TRAI has recommended to Government to raise the price of 2G spectrum by at least six fold;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of action taken by Government in this regard, till date; and

(d) the details of revenue likely to be accrued by this move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (d) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in their letter dated 8th February, 2011 to the Secretary, DoT has recommended the following estimated Price of 1800 MHz spectrum in 2010 on per MHz basis for a period of 20 years.

(i) Per MHz All India price of Rs. 1769.75 Crores upto 6.2 MHz

(ii) Per MHz All India price of Rs.4571.87 Crores beyond 6.2 MHz

Further, TRAI has recommended that the above prices may be made applicable from 1.4.2010, prorated for the remaining validity of the respective licences while charging for excess spectrum. These recommendations are under consideration of the Government.