

(c) TRAI has imposed financial disincentives on the 8 service providers for Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC) under Telecom Unsolicited Commercial Communications Regulation, 2007 (as amended).

#### **Setting up of mobile towers by private companies**

†512. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any rules have been prescribed for setting up of mobile towers by private mobile companies and if so, the brief details thereof;

(b) whether mobile companies take land from local farmers/residents on rent to erect towers and later on invite other companies to mount their equipments on the same tower and charge rent from them;

(c) whether this practice of allowing other companies to mount their equipment in lieu of rent on the same tower does not amount to exploitation of farmers/residents; and

(d) whether Government would take appropriate steps to check such exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (d) As per existing licensing and regulatory norms, only Access Service Licensees and Infrastructure Provider Category I (IP-I) registered companies are authorized to establish mobile towers. For installation of mobile towers, Wireless Planning and Coordination (WPC) Wing of Department of Telecommunications (DoT) issues siting clearance for each and every site of mobile tower from point of view of interference with other wireless users, aviation hazards and obstruction to any other existing microwave links. This clearance is issued without prejudice to applicable bylaws, such as Municipal Corporation and Gram Panchayat, etc. The Access Service Licensees / IP-I companies make their own arrangement for erection of tower.

In order to avoid the clustering of multiple towers in congested areas, DoT has permitted the sharing of towers and other related accessories, equipments amongst the telecom service providers on mutual agreement basis.

Further, the acquisition of land for erection of mobile tower and compensation thereof is a commercial matter between the two parties.

#### **Telephone signal towers installed by BSNL**

513. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has installed signal towers in the country;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.