

Fine realized from telemarketing callers

2698. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new regulations framed by TRAI to safeguard and protect the consumers from unsolicited calls by telemarketing companies has come into effect;

(b) if so, whether any of the service providers have initiated action penalizing telemarketing callers and deposited the fine so realized with TRAI; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Since coming into force of "The Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010" from 27th September, 2011, the Access Providers have penalized registered telemarketers in 18 cases and deposited the amount with TRAI till 30 November, 2011, and per the details given below:—

Sl. No.	Access Service Provider	Number of cases	Amount deposited with TRAI (Rs.)
1.	M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.	9	Rs. 3,30,000
2.	M/s Vodafone	6	Rs. 2,00,000
3.	M/s Loop Mobile	3	Rs. 75,000
TOTAL:		18	Rs. 6,05,000

Foreign tourists having satellite telephones

†2699. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of foreign tourists having satellite phones have increased at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any type of threat to national security because of such incidents of finding satellite phones with the foreign tourists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the guidelines made by Government to check such incidents?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Sir, Instances have come to the notice regarding use of satellite phones by foreign tourists in India. It has been found by Police/Security agencies that on few occasions, foreign tourists, while visiting India are carrying satellite telephones such as Thuriya, Iridium etc. without having any permission for the same.

(c) and (d) Since DoT has not issued any license for provision of satellite telephone service in the country under Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, as such, use of satellite phones in the country by any individual/foreigner is un-authorised and could pose a threat to national security.

Further, the Central Board of Excise and Customs, Ministry of Finance has issued a circular no. 520/22/2010-Cus.VI dated 24th September, 2010 whereby arriving passengers importing satellite phones as baggage are required to declare the same to the Customs on arrival.

Illegal benefit to foreign companies by telecom companies

†2700. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case has come before Government wherein major telecom companies have benefited a foreign company illegally;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard, so far;

(c) whether it is a fact that monetary penalty has been imposed upon two major telecom companies recently; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (d) Sir, it was reported that an unlicensed entity namely M/s Singapore Telecommunications Limited (STL) was providing International Private Lease Circuits (IPLC) to the customers in India without obtaining any license under section 4 of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. For providing the IPLC link to the Indian customers, M/s STL had entered into an agreement with M/s Bharti Airtel Limited (BAL) and M/s Tata Communications Limited (TCL), the licensed International Long Distance (ILD) service providers in India.

The case was examined in DoT and it was found that M/s BAL and M/s TCL, while providing the said IPLC to M/s STL, have violated the terms and conditions of the ILD license. Accordingly, a penalty of Rs. 50 crores has been imposed each on M/s BAL and M/s TCL. However, both the licensees have filed a petition in Hon'ble

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.