

- (i) SAR level for mobile handsets is limited to 1.6 Watt/Kg, average over a mass of 1 gram of human tissue.
- (ii) All the new design of mobile handsets shall comply with the SAR value of 1.6 Watt/Kg averaged over a mass of 1 gram tissue with effect from 1st September, 2012. However, the mobile handsets with existing designs, which are compliant with 2.0 Watt/Kg averaged over a mass of 10 gram tissue, may continue to co-exist upto 31st August, 2013.
- (iii) From 1st September, 2013, only the mobile handsets with revised SAR value of 1.6 Watt/Kg are permitted to be manufactured or imported in India for domestic market.

With the above measures, India now has one of the most stringent EMF exposure norms in the world.

(c) Telecom Service Providers submit the compliance to the prescribed radiation norms by way of submission of self-certificate to the respective Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cell of DoT. TERM Cells test upto 10% of Base Transmitting Station (BTS) sites randomly at its discretion. Additionally, the BTS sites against which there are public complaints are also tested by TERM Cell. For non-compliance of radiation norms, there is a provision of levy of penalty of Rs. 5 lakh per BTS.

Strict monitoring and enforcement of revised radiation norms has been initiated by DoT. In 102 cases, where the Base Station Emissions were found to be higher than the prescribed norms, corrective actions have been taken immediately and necessary show cause notices/demand notices have been issued.

Messages of false prize money/lottery on mobile phones

†2078. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any policy to check the increasing number of fake messages of lottery, prize, etc. on mobile phones;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of cases detected till now?

†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, the issue of receiving messages and calls relating to winning prizes, lottery etc and missed calls from international locations by telecom consumers had come to notice of TRAI through consumer complaints and also from news paper reports. In this regard, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had advised the service providers to take steps to address this menace so as to protect the interests of the consumers.

For addressing Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC) including SMS being received by telecom consumers, TRAI has laid down the framework for controlling UCC through the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations (TCCCPR). These regulations came into force from 27.09.2011. TRAI has also issued a number of amendments to these regulations and directions to make the regulatory framework more stringent and effective. To control UCC messages being received by consumers, TRAI has prescribed penal provisions against telemarketers for violations of the provisions of the regulations. In case of violation by a registered telemarketer, amounts will be deducted from the security deposit of such telemarketer by the Access Provider and such amount will be deposited with TRAI. The regulations also provide for financial disincentive on service providers for violations of the provisions of the regulations. With the implementation of these measures, it is expected that the problem of unsolicited commercial messages will be addressed effectively and satisfactorily.

(c) No record about the number of such fake messages received by consumers are being maintained by TRAI/Government.

Termination charges for domestic and international calls

2079. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cost of termination charges for both domestic and international calls as per the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) guidelines;

(b) whether TRAI is deviating from its established principle of termination charges on the basis of cost, to benefit certain selected operators;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;