

w.e.f. the deemed date of extension of merging entity having lesser validity of licence at the time of merger or the date of spectrum reframing guidelines whichever is later.

- (viii) Issues related to spectrum price, to be paid by the resultant entity, would be decided separately. The same shall also apply in case of renewal of wireless operating licence, post merger.
- (ix) On the merger of the two licenses, the AGR of the two entities will also be merged and the license fee will be therefore levied at the specified rate for that service area on the resultant total AGR. Similarly, for the purpose of payment of the spectrum charge, the spectrum held by the two licensees will be added/merged and the annual spectrum charge will be at the prescribed rate applicable on this total spectrum. However, in case of holding of spectrum for various technologies by the entity subsequent to Merger, spectrum charges and license fee etc. or any other criterion being followed by the licensor shall be applicable as in case of any other UAS/CMTS licensee.
- (x) Existing provisions in the UAS licence relating to Lock-in period for sale of equity/merger shall continue.”

“Decisions on all matters relating to One Time Spectrum Charge including pricing of spectrum in cases of M&A and Spectrum Sharing will be taken separately”.

Mobile phone towers and tariff of multinational companies

†513. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the comparative details of density of mobile phone towers of multinational companies operating in the country’s mobile phone segment such as Vodafone, etc., with that in other countries;
- (b) the basis on which pulse rate for the tariff of mobile phone is fixed;
- (c) whether complaints regarding overcharging of tariff unscrupulously by these companies operating in the country, have been received; and
- (d) if so, the details and disposal thereof, company-wise?

†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) Sir, Mobile phone towers are deployed by the Telecom Service Providers as per the Radio Frequency (RF) Network planning based on various parameters such as quantum of spectrum used, type of network, geography/terrain of the area, number of Base Transmitting Stations deployed, tower sharing amongst the multiple service providers, population density of the mobile users, number of licensees in the service area etc. The density of mobile towers varies from place to place, country to country due to significant differences in the above mentioned parameters.

(b) As per the existing tariff framework, tariff for telecommunication access services is under forbearance except national roaming and rural fixed line services. The Telecom Service Providers have the flexibility to determine various charging components and the pulse rate applicable depending on the market conditions and other commercial considerations. As per this flexibility, telecom service providers have specified different duration as pulse rate for charging in terms of seconds and minutes.

(c) and (d) During the financial year 2012-13 upto January, 2013, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has received 2419 complaints relating to billing and tariff including complaints relating to overcharging of tariff. The service provider-wise details of complaints are given below:—

BSNL	MTNL	Bharti	Tata	Reliance	Vodafone	Idea	Others	Total
122	36	745	345	329	505	194	143	2419

Further, TRAI Act, 1997 does not envisage handling of individual consumer complaints by TRAI. However, TRAI has been receiving complaints from consumers relating to unsatisfactory resolution of their complaints. The individual consumer complaints received in TRAI are forwarded to the concerned service provider for redressal.

National Postal Policy

514. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated or proposes to formulate a National Postal Policy for expansion and modernisation of the postal network;