

All the wireless access service providers including BSNL and MTNL have implemented the tariff for national roaming in accordance with the reduced ceilings prescribed through the 55th Amendment to Tariff Order (TTO), 1999. All the service providers have launched special tariff plans for roaming. Some of the service providers have launched special tariff vouchers and combo vouchers for national roaming.

While the reduced ceiling tariffs for national roaming service would benefit all the users, special tariff vouchers and combo vouchers would be beneficial for infrequent roamers. On the other hand, special tariff plans would benefit the frequent roamers.

Universal emergency number

†990. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to use only one emergency number as is done in developed countries;

(b) if so, whether this number would be a universal number; and

(c) whether there would be provision for another alternative number too and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA) : (a) to (c) Sir, Government has constituted an Inter Ministerial Group headed by Union Home Secretary for examining the technical/operational aspects of a unified control room for emergency services. Further, a High Level Study Group under the Chairmanship of the Additional Secretary (Foreigners), Ministry of Home affairs has also been established to explore the possibilities to have an Emergency Response system with universal emergency number similar to E-911 in USA and suggest its scope, approach, technical issues and mechanism to implement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.