

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:478
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2003
TARIFF SCHEMES
PRABHA RAU;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a total confusion amongst the telecom operators and subscribers in the matter of inter-connect usage charges;
- (b) whether the operators have been revising their tariff schemes at short intervals;
- (c) whether the Telecom. Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) propose to examine as to whether the forbearance given to the cellular and WLL operators in setting tariffs be withdrawn;
- (d) whether the TRAI also propose to review the number of tariff packages that an operator would be allowed to offer; and
- (e) the concrete steps taken by the TRAI to ensure that business principles/guidelines are enforced, inter-connectivity is freely allowed and the guilty get identified, tried and penalised to avoid any inconvenience to the consumers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI , PRADHAN)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d): Yes, Sir.

(e) TRAI monitors the provisions of Interconnection. While addressing specific cases and the general principle applicable, it takes steps provided under the TRAI Act about penalty.