

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2368
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2003
SHOW CAUSE NOTICES TO CELLULAR COMPANIES
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY

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

- (a) whether the Government has issued show cause notices to Bharati, Reliance, Infocom and Idea Cellular;
- (b) if so, the details of violations made by the said cellular companies;
- (c) whether any reply had been given by the said companies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action Government /TRAI proposes to take against the companies?

Answer

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

(a) Sir, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had issued show cause notices to M/s. Bharti, M/s. Reliance Infocom and M/s. Idea Cellular on 11.11.2003.

(b) TRAI in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 read with Section 11(1) (b) of the TRAI (Amendment) Act, 2000 issued directive on 23.9.2003 to all telecom service providers for strict adherence of guidelines of TRAI dated 1.8.2003, which, inter-alia, provided for advertisement of tariffs in the prescribed format. It had come to the notice of TRAI that M/s. Bharti, M/s. Reliance Infocom and Ms. Idea Cellular had made advertisements in newspapers which were not in the format prescribed by TRAI and hence violated the TRAI's directive.

(c) to (e) All the three companies mentioned above have replied to the show cause notices of TRAI; details thereof are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. A decision in the matter has not yet been taken by the TRAI.