

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4804
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2005
REDUCTION IN ACCESS DEFICIT CHARGES
Kushwaha Shri Narendra Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India proposes to reconsider to make a further reduction in Access Deficit Charges (ADC) as reported in the Hindi daily Hindustan dated March 20, 2005;
- (b) if so, whether negotiations have been held with private operators under the said scheme;
- (c) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (d) the likely impact on rural communication expansion schemes;
- (e) whether the Government provides funds to private sector companies in the form of ADC each year under the licensing condition; and
- (f) if so, the facts thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (d): Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has floated a consultation paper on Interconnection Usage Charge Review on 17th March, 2005, seeking comments of all the stake holders on the issues including the justification and the amount of Access Deficit Charge (ADC) and methodology of collecting ADC.

The process normally followed include seeking of comments in writing and holding open house sessions wherein discussions with stakeholders takes place. As the process of consultation & decision thereafter is not yet over, it is not possible to comment on the likely impact on rural communication expansion scheme.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.