

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:792
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2006
CHECKING GREY MARKET CALLS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in a bid to check the grey market calls of National Long Distance and International Long Distance calls the TRAI has created an institutional system to ensure legitimate NLD and ILD calls;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has been losing crores of rupees every year due to grey market calls; and
- (d) if so, the strategies formulated to keep a check on such activities?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has directed all Access Providers, National Long Distance Service Providers and International Long Distance Service Providers on 19th January 2006 that international traffic minutes should be submitted in the requisite prescribed format on monthly basis with effect from the month of January 2006 to TRAI under intimation to Department of Telecommunications

(c) & (d) while grey market continues to exist causing loss to Government as well as various service providers, surveillance has been increased to detect such calls. Measures taken to tackle this problem include setting up of Vigilance Telecom Monitoring Cell in four places, dedicated CBI cells in four metros, taking up public awareness programmes and provisioning of Toll Free Public number for reporting such calls.