

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1256

ANSWERED ON:07.03.2007

VERIFICATION OF MOBILE SUBSCRIBERS

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

- (a) whether a large number of subscribers of mobile phones are not identified by the operators;
- (b) if so, the number of such subscribers; and
- (c) the measures taken or likely to be taken by the Government to achieve 100 per cent identification of the subscribers?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) It was brought to the notice of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) that the mobile service providers are generally not complying with the requirement of subscriber verification as contained in their licence agreements.

DoT carried out special drives to check this in the cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad and the State of Haryana. In the samples checked, it was observed that in pre-paid subscribers about 60% and in post-paid subscribers about 93% were meeting the requirement of subscriber verification. Based on the observations of special drive, directions were issued to concerned service providers to disconnect such connections that have been provided without proper verification.

Instructions have also been issued to all the mobile service providers on 22nd November 2006 for re-verification of existing subscribers by end of March 2007. Thereafter, if any number is found working without proper verification, a minimum penalty of Rs. 1000 per violation of subscriber number verification shall be levied on the licensee apart from immediate disconnection of the subscriber number by the licensee.