

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1695
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2009
FUNDS FROM TELECOM COMPANIES
Hamsrajbhai Shri Radadiya Vitthalbhai

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

- (a) whether the Government is receiving any funds from private telecom companies under social commitment in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of amount received from each of the telecom company during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the details of the expenditure made out of the said amount alongwith the items on which the amount has been spent;
- (d) whether the rule of social commitment is not being followed properly;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the reaction of the Government thereto

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

- (a) DoT collects Universal Service levy (USL) from eligible telecom service providers to raise resources for making available telecommunication services in rural and remote areas of the country.
- (b) Details of the amounts received from the telecom companies during the last three years and the current year is enclosed as Annexure-I.
- (c) The collections of USL made from the operators are initially credited to the Consolidated Fund of India from which certain amounts are allocated to Universal Service Obligation Fund through Union Budget. The details of expenditures made from the Universal Service Obligation Fund are enclosed in Annexure- II & III.
- (d) Sir, the Universal Service Obligation Fund is being utilized properly as per the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules 2004, as amended from time to time.
- (e) & (f) Not applicable in view of (d) above.