

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2455  
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2015  
TELECOM TARIFF  
Adhikari Shri Sisir Kumar;Bohara Shri Ramcharan

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

- (a) whether telecom tariff of different service providers in the country is higher than the tariff of other countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof in comparison to USA, Australia, China, Pakistan and Sri Lanka;
- (c) whether the Government has any control on telecom tariffs;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to bring down the telecom tariffs for various services; and
- (e) if not, the manner in which the Government proposes to maintain the tariff at reasonable rates?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b) As per the ITU World Telecommunications/ICT indicators 2013, the telecom tariffs in India are one of the lowest in the World. A comparison of telecom tariffs in India with telecom tariffs in USA, Australia, China, Pakistan and Sri Lanka is placed below:-  
Country Name Monthly subscription for residential telephone service, in USD Price of a three-minute local call to a fixed-telephone line (peak rate), in USD Mobile-cellular prepaid- price of a one-minute local call (peak, on-net), in USD Mobile-cellular prepaid-price of a one minute local call (peak, off-net), in USD

Australia	22.067	0.288	0.144	0.144
China	4.032	0.035	0.032	0.032
India	2.294	0.019	0.015	0.015
Pakistan	4.91	0	0.026	0.026
Sri Lanka	2.943	0.054	0.009	0.019
United States	16.32	0.163	0.272	0.272

(c) to (e) As per the existing tariff framework, tariff for telecommunication access service is under forbearance except for national roaming and rural fixed-line services. The service providers have the flexibility to decide various tariff components for different service areas of their operation. Tariffs are offered by service providers taking into account several factors including input costs, level of competition and other commercial considerations