

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 975
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13TH FEBRUARY, 2025**

FRAUDULENT MOBILE CONNECTIONS IN WEST BENGAL

975 SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of individuals in West Bengal holding more than nine SIM cards, as identified by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT);
- (b) the number of such SIM cards disconnected in the last five years for exceeding the prescribed limit;
- (c) whether Government plans to limit the number of SIM cards per individual in West Bengal to six as applied in J&K, Assam, and North East licence areas; and
- (d) the steps being taken to ensure compliance with SIM card limits in West Bengal and their impact on reducing fraudulent connections?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)**

- (a) & (b) Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has identified 4,05,307 individuals holding more than nine (9) connections in West Bengal. Total of 13,59,934 mobile connections of such individuals have been disconnected after re-verification in past 5 years pertaining to West Bengal.
- (c) Presently, no such proposal for limiting the number of SIM cards per individual in West Bengal to six (6) is under consideration.
- (d) DoT uses Artificial Intelligence and Big data Analytic tools to identify such connections which are beyond prescribed limits and after analysis the information is shared with Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) through an online secure Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP) for re-verification and subsequent disconnection of mobile numbers.
