

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2410  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2018**

**FLOOR PRICES FOR VOICE AND DATA SERVICES**

2410. SHRI B.V. NAIK:  
SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that some of the telecom companies including BSNL, have asked TRAI to consider setting floor prices for voice and data services and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted a study to examine the repercussions of setting up floor prices for voice and data and its impact on the progress of Digital India; and
- (c) if so, the details and the outcomes thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &  
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)**

(a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has informed that in a Meeting of CEOs of the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) with the Authority, held on 15.6.2017, among various issues relating to financial health of the telecom service sector, one of the issues raised, was fixation of floor price for voice, data and SMS service, which was decided to be further deliberated upon. In a further meeting of CEOs of TSPs with the Authority on 21.7.2017 the TSPs were found to be generally in agreement that the existing policy of forbearance in telecom tariff should continue for the present. It was agreed during the meeting that fixing of floor price is not a workable idea and it need not be pursued at this point of time.

(b) & (c) Government has not conducted any such study to examine the repercussions of setting up floor prices for voice and data and its impact on the progress of Digital India.

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