

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2593  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2024**

**HIKE IN TARIFF RATES BY TELECOM OPERATORS**

**†2593 SHRI RAJKUMAR ROAT:  
SHRI GAURAV GOGOI:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is aware of the latest hike in tariff and possibility of making inconsistent profits by private telecom operators despite their high profit in Financial Year 2023-24;
- (b) if so, whether TRAI will continue to be indifferent or will review the tariff and fix maximum ceiling as per the regulations and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any study has been conducted by the TRAI for assessment of effect of tariff hike on consumers;
- (d) if so, the results thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the details of reporting requirements met by the private sector as per TRAI regulations; and
- (f) the way by which TRAI determines the predatory price to be charged by a service provide and the way by which it regulates the telcom market in this regard?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b) Yes, the tariffs have been hiked recently by 03 telecom service providers namely M/s Bharti Airtel Ltd. (BAL), M/s Reliance Jio InfoComm Ltd. (RJIL) and M/s Vodafone Idea Ltd. (VIL). As per the existing regulatory tariff framework, tariff for telecommunication service is under forbearance except for services such as National Roaming, Rural Fixed Line Services, mobile number portability charges and leased circuits 'Nil' tariff has been prescribed for USSD services to promote financial inclusion etc. among rural unbanked feature phone users.

(c) & (d) No.

(e) As per Telecommunication Tariff Order (TTO), 1999, the service provider shall report to the Authority any new tariff for telecom services or any change there under within seven working days from the date of implementation and record of the Authority.

(f) Matter is sub judice and pending before Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

\*\*\*\*\*