

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1541
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH DECEMBER, 2024**

INCREASE IN TARIFF BY PRIVATE OPERATORS

1541. ADV DEAN KURIAKOSE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the increase in tariffs being levied by private network operators in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has any plans to investigate into any collusion among the network operators for increasing the tariffs across all sections;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has any plans of initiating any enquiry by the Competition Commission of India; and
- (d) if so, whether it is true that such increases in tariffs especially data charges go against the very motto of a digitally inclusive nation and affect the common man, if so, the details of the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes, the tariff has been hiked by the Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Bharti Airtel Limited and Vodafone India Limited.
- (b) to (d) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is independent authority for regulation of tariff for Telecommunication service in India. As per the existing regulatory tariff framework, tariff for telecommunication service is under forbearance except for some specific services Subject to compliance to extant regulatory provisions, service providers are free to design and offer tariff based on their understanding of the market situation and in their best commercial interest.
