GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2144 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH MARCH, 2025

CHECKING/CONTROLLING OF UNWARRANTED CALLS AND SMS

2144. DR. M K VISHNU PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has initiated any steps/actions to bring relief to the telecom users by stopping/checking/preventing/controlling unwarranted calls and SMSs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reasons for missing the earlier deadline?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (c) Unwarranted calls and SMSs which are also known as Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC) are regulated by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). TRAI has issued Telecommunications Commercial Communications Consumers Preference Regulations, 2018 (TCCCPR-2018) which deals with UCC. TRAI has issued amendment to TCCCPR-2018 dated 12.02.2025. The TCCCPR-2018 regulations have been followed by a number of Directions for implementation of provisions of the regulations. TCCCPR-2018 and Directions have provisions for:
 - Registering preferences for Commercial Communication where a telecom subscriber can
 opt to block all commercial communications or can selectively block commercial
 communications as per preference categories and registering complaint against senders of
 UCC through Mobile App, sending SMS to short code 1909 and calling on 1909.
 - ii. Blacklisting of Registered Entities and Telemarketers for violation of TCCCPR-2018.
 - iii. Action against Unregistered Telemarketer (UTM) such as giving a warning, putting them under Usage Cap or disconnecting in case of repeated violations.
 - iv. Financial Disincentives (FDs) against the Access Providers for failing to curb UCC.
