GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 673 ANSWERED ON 23RD JULY, 2025

UNIFORMITY IN TELECOM TARIFFS AND SERVICE CHARGES

673. SHRI KISHORI LAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for not a single/uniform charge for all mobile services in India;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal for the standardization of certain charges and fees within the telecom sector in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons for not implementing uniform service charges and tariffs in the sector;
- (e) whether it is mandatory that mobile device makers adopt USB Type-C as the standard charging port for electronic products in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) 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, leased circuits and USSD. Subject to compliance with extant regulatory provisions, service providers are free to design and offer tariffs based on their understanding of the market situation.

Service providers have the flexibility to decide various tariff components like the rates for different types of calls, SMS, data offers etc. with multiple combinations including recharge value and validity for different service areas of their operation.

Tariffs are offered by service providers taking into account several factors including input costs, level of competition and other commercial considerations, subject to their compliance with regulatory principles which include, inter alia, the principles of transparency, non-predation and non-discrimination.

It may be noted that adequate competition exists in the market with four telecom operators offering competitive plans in the market. It may also be noted that the Indian telecom tariffs are amongst the lowest in the world and in India's neighbourhood as well.

(e) &(f) It is not mandatory in India for mobile device manufacturers to adopt USB Type-C as the standard charging port for electronic products.
