

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2956  
ANSWERED ON 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2025**

**ACTION AGAINST 28-DAY CYCLE BILLING BY TELECOM COMPANIES**

**2956. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that telecom service providers are offering prepaid plans with a 28-day validity cycle instead of a full month, thereby charging consumers for 13 billing cycles per year;
- (b) if so, whether this practice amounts to indirect overcharging and causes financial loss to consumers and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by TRAI and the Department of Telecommunications to regulate such practices and ensure fair billing cycles;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to mandate monthly (30-day) validity plans for transparency and consumer protection; and
- (e) the time by which corrective action is likely to be implemented?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (e) 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 and in their best commercial interest. 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. However, TRAI through Telecommunication Tariff (66th Amendment) Order dated 27.01.2022 and Telecommunication Tariff (67th Amendment) Order dated 31.03.2022 mandated to offer at least one plan voucher, one special tariff voucher and one combo voucher having a validity of thirty days Voucher which shall be renewable on the same date of every month and if the date of such renewal is not available in a month, the date of renewal shall be the last date of the month.

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