GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.921 TO BE ANSWERED ON 2nd MARCH, 2016

MOBILE NETWORK AT AIRPORT

†921. SHRI RAJAN VICHARE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has noticed the problem of public representatives in the VIP lounge of the Palam Domestic Airport, New Delhi on account of poor mobile network signal; and
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (b) TRAI has recently undertaken drive test of the network of cellular mobile service providers to assess coverage and quality of service in select areas, highways and major arterial roads, including highways/ roads around the Indira Gandhi International Airport. The results of these drive tests have already been published on TRAI's website www.trai.gov.in. However, in these drive tests the coverage in the VIP lounge of Palam Domestic Airport was not conducted. As such, TRAI has no information about the coverage inside the VIP lounge of Palam Domestic Airport.

TRAI has been pursuing with service providers, for improving Quality of Service and in this regard regular interactions are held with the service providers. Further, for improving the coverage and call drop issues in some of the cities where drive tests were undertaken including in Delhi service area. Meetings were held with the Chief Executive Officers of mobile companies in September 2015 and in October 2015. Also, TRAI had issued regulations providing for compensation to consumers for call drop experienced by them. Further, to create deterrent against non-compliance, TRAI has also been imposing financial disincentives on service providers for failure to comply with the benchmarks, in accordance with the provisions of the regulations.

The Department is actively coordinating to improve upon the current status of call drops by involving concerned government agencies such as New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC), Directorate of Estates, Central Public Works Department (CPWD) and Security agencies as well as State Governments for granting permission for deployment of additional sites. Further, the Department as well as TRAI has been spreading the awareness amongst the general public and mobile users that the radio emissions from telecommunications equipments have no potential health hazards.
