

SC No. 195

Date: 25/10/2013

From,  
Venkatesh Nayak  
B-117, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,  
Sarvodaya Enclave  
New Delhi - 110 017

To,  
Shri Rakesh Mittal  
Central Public Information Officer and  
Director (Internal Security-I)  
Ministry of Home Affairs  
North Block  
New Delhi -110 001

Dear sir,

Ref: Letter no. II.20034/35/2013-IS.II/M dated 20 Sep, 2013

Apropos of your reply of aforementioned number and date, to my RTI application dated 13/08/2013, received by Speed Post on 25/09/2013, I would like to thank you for sending me a positive response. However, the letter sent by MHA to the Dept. of Telecom mentioned by you in response to paras #1-3 of my RTI application was not attached to your reply. Instead I received only a copy of my own RTI application along with the Annexure attached to it. I have also not received a copy of the reply submitted by Dept. of Telecom to the Lok Sabha as mentioned in your reply to para #4 of my RTI application. I am returning the entire set of papers received from your office as received by Speed Post as proof of the absence of the said documents.

Kindly send me a copy of the letter written by MHA to the Dept. of Telecom on the said subject. There is no need to send a copy of the reply given to the Lok Sabha by the Dept. of Telecom as the same is available on the Lok Sabha website and I will download it myself. Kindly oblige in order to avoid filing of first appeal and dragging this matter any further than is necessary.

Thanking you,  
Yours sincerely,

S. S. Venkatesh Nayak  
Venkatesh Nayak

RTI- 195/Div (ES-I)/13  
28/X/13

Sum  
The notes & to SCM(S)  
sent to per reply  
PA noted

Sum  
28/X

Sum  
29.10.13

RTI Matter  
By Speed Post

No. II.20034/35/2013-IS.II/M  
Government of India  
Ministry of Home Affairs  
(IS.I Division/IS.II Desk)

North Block, New Delhi,  
Dated: 21 Sep, 2013

To

✓ Shri Venkatesh Nayak  
B-117, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Sarvodaya Enclave,  
New Delhi-110017.

Sub: Application of Shri Venkatesh Nayak seeking information under Right to Information Act, 2005.

Please refer to your RTI application dated 13.08.2013 received in this Ministry on 19.08.2013 and received in the office of this CPIO on 26.08.2013 through MHA OM No A-43020/01/2013-RTI dated 22.08.2013 on the above subject.

2. Para wise reply of information sought is as under:

Para 1 to 3: A proposal to make it mandatory for mobile service providers to collect fingerprint/biometric data of subscriber before activating the mobile number was received from Commissioner of Police, New Delhi. Since the issue comes within the preview of Department of Telecom, same was sent to DoT for examination at their end. MHA letter addressed to DoT is enclosed. As regards the Commissioner of Police letter and file notings, it is intimated that information relates to third party and also contains issues other than those referred in RTI application. Accordingly, response from Delhi Police has been sought in the matter. On receipt of their response, pending information will be provided.

Para 4: On the subject, one reply has been submitted by Department of Telecom in response of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No 548 dated 07.08.2013. Copy of same is enclosed for reference purpose. Purpose of the proposal is to make mobile verification guidelines more stringent for providing new mobile connection.

● Para. 5 to 8: The information sought vide para 5 to 8 relates to Department of Telecom. The RTI application in respect of these paras is being transferred to Department of Telecom under Section 6(3) of RTI Act 2005 for providing the request information.

3. It is informed that in case you are not satisfied with the reply, you can prefer an appeal within 30 days from the receipt of this communication to Shri Rakesh Singh, Joint Secretary (Internal Security-I), Room No 197-B, North Block, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi, who is the Appellate Authority in this case.

Yours faithfully,



(Rakesh Mittal)

Director (Internal Security-I) & CPIO

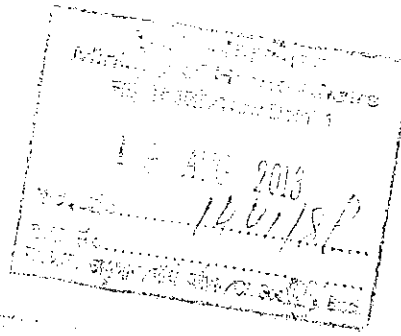
Enclosed: As above

Copy to:

Shri R. Shakya, Director (S.II) & CPIO, Department of Telecommunications, Sanchar Bhavan, 20 Ashoka Road, New Delhi for providing the reply to Para 5 to 8 of the enclosed RTI application.

From:  
Venkatesh Nayak  
E-117, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Sarvodaya Enclave  
New Delhi- 110 017

Date: 13/08/2013



To:  
The Central Public Information Officer  
Ministry of Home Affairs  
Government of India  
North Block  
New Delhi- 110 001

5244/A02/2013  
2/8/13

Dear sir,

Sub: Request for information under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (RTI Act)

I have enclosed a copy of a report published recently in an English language national daily, about the exchange of correspondence between your Ministry (MHA) and the Department of Tele-Communications (DoT) on a proposal to make it mandatory for mobile service providers to collect fingerprint/biometric data of subscribers and the creation of a central database. I am requesting the following information from your public authority about this proposal:

- 1) A clear photocopy of all correspondence between the MHA and the DoT pertaining to the aforementioned proposal;
- 2) A clear photocopy of all correspondence between the MHA and any other public authority or private agency pertaining to the aforementioned proposal;
- 3) A clear photocopy of the file notings contained in the MHA's files pertaining to the aforementioned proposal;
- 4) A comprehensive description of the purposes behind the said proposal and the materials that formed the basis for identification of the said purposes;
- 5) The estimated cost to be incurred by the public exchequer for creating and maintaining the said central database;
- 6) The estimated cost likely to be incurred by the mobile telephony service providers for collecting fingerprint/biometric data from subscribers and transferring it to the proposed central database;

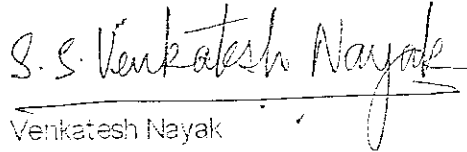
RTI  
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- 7) A description of the existent or proposed statutory and administrative mechanisms for preventing misuse of personal data collected by the mobile service providers and maintained in the proposed central database; and
- 8) A description of the existent or proposed statutory and administrative mechanisms for data-subjects to access their personal data that will be held by the mobile service providers and the central database for the purpose of correcting any error.

I am a citizen of India. I have enclosed an IPO (bearing #11F 003892) for Rs. 10/- towards payment of the prescribed application fee. I would like to receive the aforementioned information by post at my address mentioned above. Kindly inform me of the additional fee payable for obtaining this information.

Thanking you,

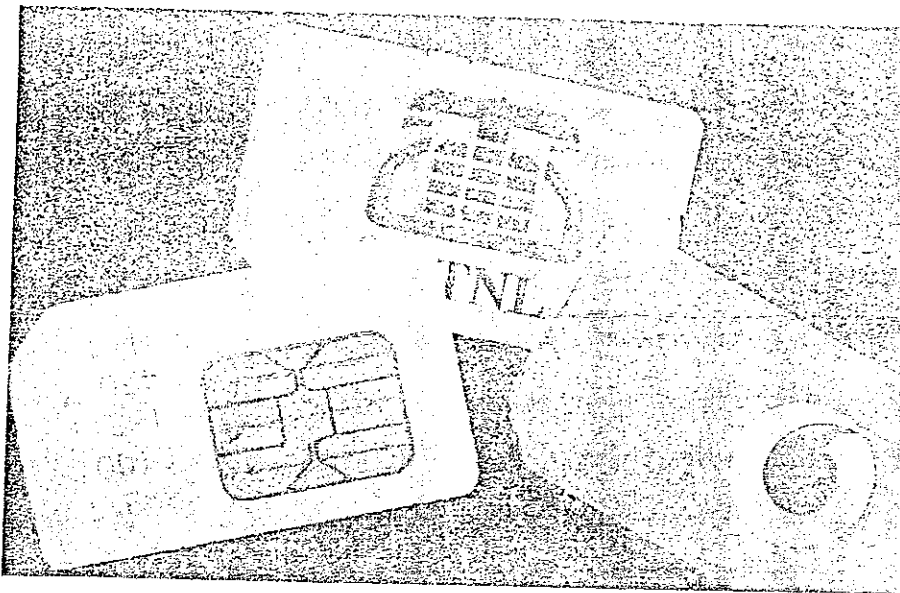
Yours sincerely,

  
Venkatesh Nayak

S & T » Technology

Published: August 7, 2013 10:17 IST . Updated: August 8, 2013 04:41 IST

## Fingerprint may soon become compulsory for SIM card



The government is exploring the option of making it compulsory for telecom service providers to take fingerprint or any other biometric feature of the subscriber when he/she applies for a new mobile connection. File photo

The Hindu

The government is exploring the option of making it compulsory for telecom service providers to take fingerprint or any other biometric feature of the subscriber when he/she applies for a mobile connection.

The Department of Telecom (DoT) recently received a suggestion from the Ministry of Home Affairs indicating that the DoT maintain a central database of all subscribers with bio-metric parameters akin to the Aadhaar, Minister of State for Communications and IT Milind Deora said in the Lok Sabha.

This would entail taking fingerprint/thumb impression or any other unique bio-metric feature of the subscriber when he/she applies for a mobile connection, he said adding that the suggestion "is presently being examined in the DoT and decision on the same is yet to be taken."

Last year, the DoT made it mandatory for a service provider to physically verify an applicant before issuing a SIM card. However, there have been reports that the process is not being adhered to.

Keywords: Department of Telecommunication, new SIM card, fingerprints, Minister of State for Communications and IT, Milind Deora, parliament session, monsoon session

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Reply of Sl No. 195

RTI Matter  
By Speed Post

No. II.20034/35/2013-IS.II/M  
Government of India  
Ministry of Home Affairs  
(IS.I Division/IS.II Desk)

North Block, New Delhi,  
Dated: 9 Nov, 2013

To

Shri Venkatesh Nayak  
B-117, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Sarvodaya Enclave,  
New Delhi-110017.

Sub: Application of Shri Venkatesh Nayak seeking information under Right to Information Act, 2005.

Please refer to this office OM of even number dated 20.09.2013 on the above subject.

2. As regards the Commissioner of Police letter and file notings, please find enclosed the copy of Commissioner of Police letter and relevant portion of MHA file noting (duly redacted) and letter of MHA to DoT.

3. It is informed that in case you are not satisfied with the reply, you can prefer an appeal within 30 days from the receipt of this communication to Shri Rakesh Singh, Joint Secretary (Internal Security-I), Room No 197-B, North Block, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi, who is the Appellate Authority in this case.

Yours faithfully,



(Rakesh Mittal)  
Director (Internal Security-I) & CPIO

Enclosed: As above

O/C.