

**Statement from FICCI following Supreme Court order
that CAG can audit accounts of private telecom firms**

New Delhi, 18 April, 2014: "We have no comment to make on the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. However, the episode raises serious questions on the sanctity of Indian contracts. If an external audit is part of the contract it is automatically applicable. Whatever is incorporated ab-initio in the contract, the parties must live with it. Subsequent judicial challenge and interpretation creates the possibility of much wider ramifications especially as the government has extensive revenue engagement at all levels of commerce. The application of this pronouncement may get extended to areas that may not have been intended under the subject decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court", **said Mr. Sidharth Birla, President, FICCI.**

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