

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) In order to ensure optimum use and equitable allotment of scarce spectrum resource, the criteria for spectrum allotment are based on the active subscribers, peak traffic of the operators network and demographic features of the service area. These criteria are reviewed from time to time taking into account relevant factors and technological development. The latest orders in this regard are based on TRAI recommendations and have been issued in January 2008.

Universal Access Service License

2645. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some GSM telecom operators holding Universal Access Service License have outsourced their network, managed capacities/services for switching, BSC/BTS transmission and back-end support and IT infrastructure;

(b) if so, the name of GSM operators having such arrangements and whether prior permission of Government was obtained; and

(c) if not, action taken against GSM operators for violation of license agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) and (b) Government has issued Unified Access Services Licence (UASL) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Licence to telecom operators for providing cellular mobile telephone service using GSM or CDMA technology and the Licence agreement *inter-alia* provides that the licensee can always employ or appoint agents and employees for provision of the service.

Thus no prior permission of the Government is required for appointment of agents and employees for provision of service and appointment of franchisee to provide service.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Jamming of MTNL mobile lines

†2646. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MTNL mobile subscribers of NCR including, Delhi, Faridabad and Gurgaon are facing difficulties due to jamming of MTNL mobile lines;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government has taken to provide quality services to mobile subscribers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. MTNL Delhi mobile service is meeting most of the prescribed performance benchmarks by TRAI. However, there have been some temporary problems which were mostly on account of capacity augmentation exercise undertaken by MTNL for which

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

subscribers were duly informed. Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) network elements of Delhi have already been augmented and are presently under observation.

(c) The following steps taken to provide quality services to mobile subscribers are as under:

- (i) Commissioning of 750K GSM lines in 2007-08.
- (ii) 146 Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) have been added in 2007-08 in Delhi and NCR.
- (iii) 123 BTS in NCR have been upgraded with higher power/capacity BTSs in 2007-08.

Stamp on Kalaguru Bishnu Prasad Rabha

2647. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal pending in the Department for release of Postal stamp to commemorate the centenary celebration of Kalaguru Bishnu Prasad Rabha, a doyen of Assameese culture and revoluntary and cultural activist;

(b) whether Government would consider the release of such postal stamps in near future; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided to place the proposal before the Philatelic Advisory Committee which will take the decision.

(c) Does not arise in view of above.

Services of BSNL in Assam

2648. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL network failure is a regular phenomenon in Assam;

(b) if so, the steps BSNL authority has taken to solve such problem and what are the main hurdle to reduce those problems;

(c) whether BSNL authority in Assam is considering for power generation at their own initiative, in any manner for better service of the BSNL to the consumer; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) Sir, BSNL network is, in general, working satisfactorily in Assam. However, some times intermittent failure is occurring mainly due to:

- (i) Multiple Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) cuts during road widening by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and other road construction agencies.