

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

(a) No, Sir.

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

Mobile lines capacity of BSNL

3256. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

whether Government is aware that BSNL is facing rapidly shrinking market share in the fast expanding mobile market;

if so, the facts thereof;

whether there is an urgent need to augment the mobile lines capacity of BSNL to check call rates of other mobile service providers; and

if so, the corrective steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Decline in market share of BSNL in wireless segment is due to increase of number of private players and fierce competition among different service providers.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has planned to add 33.5 million lines capacity in next one year.

Change in postal infrastructure

3257. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

whether the Postal Department's revenue deficit for the fiscal 2006-07 was about Rs. 1250 crores and the projected revenue deficit for the current fiscal to be around Rs. 1288 crores;

whether in view of the rapid technological advancements in telecom and cyber related transmission system, the existing postal infrastructure have become redundant and unremunerative;

whether the Department of Posts has tied up with herbal/indigenous drug companies to sell their products through Post Offices as also over-the-counter drugs of major pharma companies; and

if so, the details thereof?

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

Sir, the revenue deficit of the department for the year 2006-07 was Rs. 1249.52 crores and the projected revenue deficit of the Department for the year 2008-09 is Rs. 1135.74 crores.