

Scheme for Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE) in the area of Electronics, ICT and Management : The scheme aims to assist institutions of higher learning (IITs, IIMs, IIITs and NITs) to strengthen their Technology Incubation Centres and thus enable young entrepreneurs to initiate technology start up companies for commercial exploitation of technologies developed by them.

Shares of Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited

†1100. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to sell its shares in Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefore?

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.

No-service zone in border areas

†1101. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:

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

(a) the area covered under 'No-Service Zone' at the borders presently and in the past;

(b) whether it is a fact that the terrorists and smugglers at particular are taking advantage of availability of mobile services alongwith the international border; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The word "No Service Zone" was introduced *vide* amendment to relevant license condition of mobile service providers on 26th February, 2007. The area covered in "No Service Zone" was 500 Meter width along International Borders. Subsequently, *vide* amendment dated 11th July, 2008; the "Non Service Zone" restriction has been removed.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Merger of ITI units with BSNL

1102. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI D. RAJA:

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.