(v) Bonus at the rate of 5% on the deposits made under Post Office Monthly Income Account (POMIA) Scheme on or after 8th December 2007 upon the maturity of the deposit has been reintroduced.

(vi) The benefit of Section 80C of the Income Tax Act, 1961 has been extended to the investments made under 5-Year Post Office Time Deposits Accounts and Senior Citizens Savings Scheme, with effect from 01.04.2007.

Local calls from Delhi

1106. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that calls made from Delhi to NCR towns and *vice versa* are still not treated as local calls and do not materialize without a STD code particularly to places like Palwal, Sonepat, Meerut, Alwar, Gurgaon etc.;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the city code does not enable many land line and mobile phones to access these cities due to poor technology or other reasons;

(d) whether this defeats the concept of NCR; and

(e) whether Government proposes to address the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The calls made from MTNL Delhi network to NCR towns and *vice-versa* are materialized by dialing 95 followed by city code and subscriber number as these places are not part Delhi short Distance Charging Area (SDCA). This facility is available to all subscribers irrespective of whether they are having STD facility or not.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Slow growth of BSNL

1107. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
      SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

(a) whether Government has expressed concern over the slow growth of BSNL;

(b) if so, whether the factors have been identified for slow growth of BSNL;

(c) if so, whether the important decision taken by the Department of Telecom are not implemented by BSNL timely;