

(b) The total amount of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows in Telecommunications and I.T. Sector in 20-06-07 and 2007-08 is given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*FDI*

*(Amount in million)*

| Sl. No.       | Sector                       | 2006-07      |                | 2007-08      |                | Total        |                |
|---------------|------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
|               |                              | Apr-Mar      |                | Apr-Mar      |                |              |                |
|               |                              | FDI<br>in Rs | FDI<br>in US\$ | FDI<br>in Rs | FDI<br>in US\$ | FDI<br>in Rs | FDI<br>in US\$ |
| 1             | Computer Software & Hardware | 117,858.23   | 2,614.43       | 56,233.00    | 1,409.64       | 174,091.24   | 4,024.06       |
| 2             | Electronics                  | 1,853.25     | 41.45          | 4,328.60     | 108.65         | 6,181.84     | 150.09         |
| 3             | Telecommunications           | 21,550.77    | 477.74         | 51,026.09    | 1,261.46       | 72,576.86    | 1,739.20       |
| GRAND TOTAL : |                              | 141,262.25   | 3,133.61       | 111,587.69   | 2,779.74       | 252,849.94   | 5,913.35       |

**Ban on the use of mobile phones in schools/colleges**

637. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL :

SHRI DARA SINGH:

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

(a) whether his Ministry has issued any guidelines stating that electromagnetic waves emitted from mobile phones can seriously damage the tissue of user's brain; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to ban the use of mobile phones in schools and colleges by students so as to avoid any harmful health affects as well as from mobiles being misused by students during school and college study hours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The latest Fact Sheet No. 304 of May, 2006 of World Health Organization (WHO) states that from all evidence accumulated so far, no adverse short or long-term health effects have been shown to occur from the RF signals produced by the base stations. Further a Committee was setup under the Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), as per the orders of Hon'ble High Court, Mumbai, to study the effects of radiations from mobile phone towers and related aspects. The Committee has studied the effects and concluded that overall there is not enough evidence to show direct health hazards of RF exposures from mobile base stations.

**Post offices in NE-region**

638. SHRI THOMAS SANGMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Post-offices in the North-Eastern region, State-wise; and  
 (b) the number of Post-offices likely to be opened in the NE region in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There are 7150 Post Offices in the N.E. Region. State-wise details given are in the Statement. (See below).

(b) Opening of Post Offices throughout the country including the NER is an ongoing process. Post Offices are opened on the basis of need and justification as per prescribed norms subject to availability of resources.

**Statement**

*Category-wise Post Offices in North East Region as on 31-3-2008*

| Sl. No. | Name of Circle    | HOs   |       | SOs   |       | EDSOs |       | EDBOs |       | Total |       | Total No. of POs |
|---------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|
|         |                   | Urban | Rural | Urban | Rural | Urban | Rural | Urban | Rural | Urban | Rural |                  |
| 1       | Assam             | 19    | 0     | 222   | 382   | 0     | 35    | 57    | 3292  | 298   | 3709  | 4007             |
| 2       | Arunachal Pradesh | 1     | 0     | 17    | 31    | 0     | 0     | 0     | 251   | 18    | 282   | 300              |
| 3       | Manipur           | 1     | 0     | 11    | 42    | 0     | 0     | 0     | 643   | 12    | 685   | 697              |
| 4       | Meghalaya         | 2     | 0     | 26    | 35    | 0     | 0     | 2     | 423   | 30    | 458   | 488              |
| 5       | Mizoram           | 1     | 0     | 23    | 17    | 2     | 3     | 32    | 327   | 58    | 347   | 405              |
| 6       | Nagaland          | 1     | 0     | 15    | 27    | 0     | 0     | 10    | 275   | 26    | 302   | 328              |
| 7       | Tripura           | 3     | 0     | 29    | 53    | 2     | 7     | 24    | 598   | 58    | 658   | 716              |
| 8       | Sikkim            | 1     | 0     | 12    | 10    | 0     | 0     | 0     | 186   | 13    | 196   | 209              |
| TOTAL : |                   | 29    | 0     | 355   | 597   | 4     | 45    | 125   | 5995  | 513   | 6637  | 7150             |

**Landline telephones in NE region**

639. SHRI THOMAS SANGMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of landline telephones in the North-Eastern region, State-wise; and  
 (b) the number of telephone exchanges likely to be opened in the NE region, in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Sir, the number of wire line telephones of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in the North Eastern Region, State-wise, as on 30.09.2008 is given below:

| Sl. No. | Name of the State | No. of wireline connections as on 30.09.2008 |
|---------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1       | 2                 | 3                                            |
| (i)     | <b>Assam</b>      | <b>3,78,256</b>                              |
| 1       | Meghalaya         | 66,131                                       |
| 2       | Mizoram           | 57,492                                       |
| 3       | Tripura           | 85,200                                       |