

on 19.02.2009 to DDA. The Committee *inter-alia* concluded that the whole process of scrutiny of applications, randomization as well as result of the draw does not suffer from any aberration and that the process is absolutely foolproof. No lapses have been found by the Committee in the whole process.

The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Delhi Police has registered a FIR case No. 02/09 dated 09.01.2009 u/s 419/420/467/468/471/201/120-B/34 IPC regarding alleged irregularities and is investigating the matter. EOW has informed that so far a total of 8 accused persons — 3 property dealers, 2 businessmen, 1 financier, 1 dismissed bank employee and 1 retired DDA employee have been arrested. The investigation has revealed that these accused persons had fraudulently filled the application forms in SC/ST and General Categories in the names of various applicants to corner maximum flats for their illegal gains.

Two charge sheets have been filed in the case against six accused in the court of law including one former employee of DDA. The third charge sheet is expected to be filed against the remaining two accused on a before 26.07.2009. Investigation is continuing to probe the role and involvement of other suspected persons and expert opinion on some exhibits sent for analysis is awaited. The EOW has also stated that investigation of the case is being conducted on a day-to-day basis to complete the investigation expeditiously.

3G facilities

*188. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the 3G facility is available in the country;
- (b) the essential features of the service;
- (c) the names of service providers;
- (d) the conditions under which members of public are to be provided 3G facilities, including the tariff charges;
- (e) the payments presently made by the purchasers of rights of the facility to Government; and
- (f) the details of the payments due or agreed to be paid by the purchasers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA):
(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. 3G facility is being provided only by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). MTNL is providing 3G services in Delhi and Mumbai areas and BSNL is providing in 100 cities.

The 3G (3rd generation) mobile telecommunications is the generic name for the next generation of mobile networks that combines wireless mobile technology with high data rate transmission capabilities. The 3G network is capable of providing higher data rates upto 2 Mbps and supporting a

variety of services such as high-resolution video and multi media services in addition to voice, fax and conventional data services.

Essential features of the 3G service are Enhanced Voice capability, High Speed Internet Access, Video calling, Video Conferencing, Video On Demand, Video Streaming, Mobile TV, Mobile Broadband, etc.

(d) 3G facilities are provided to the public after due verification of identity and address proof documents BSNL and MTNL offer tariff plans for both prepaid connections.

(e) and (f) One spectrum block of 5 MHz has been allocated to the MTNL (Delhi and Mumbai) and BSNL in all other 20 service areas. 3G spectrum would be allocated to private operators on the basis of an auction which will determine the price to be paid by the buyers. BSNL and MTNL will not participate in auction but will pay the matching price of successful bidder(s).

Fishermen/Boats in custody of Pakistan

*189. SHRI VJAYKUMAR RUPANI:
SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 394 Indian fishing boats and 400 Indian fishermen are captured and kept in custody by the Pakistan Marine Security Agency; and

(b) if so, the action that Government is taking to get the boats and fishermen released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) 556 Indian fishermen and 418 boats are in the custody of the Pakistan authorities. Government has been consistently taking up with the Government of Pakistan, including at the highest level, the issue of Indians in custody in Pakistan. A judicial committee comprising of retired judges from India and Pakistan had also been set up to ensure expeditious release and humane treatment of prisoners in either country. The committee has held three meetings till date and has visited the jails in both India and Pakistan to meet prisoners and fishermen. A delegation from the Fishermen Association of Gujarat visited Pakistan in October 2008 to verify the sea-worthiness of these boats. Government continues to urge the Government of Pakistan to view the issue of prisoners and fishermen in custody from a humanitarian angle and facilitate their earliest possible repatriation.

Plan for female sportspersons

*190. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has chalked out any plan specifically for female sportspersons in terms of infrastructure and incentives; and