

These are un-audited financial results and impact of deferred tax liability has not been estimated for year 2008-09.

(b) As per un-audited financial results, there is an after tax profit of Rs. 104 crores. It is less than last year's profit.

(c) Profit is less in comparison to last year, as staff cost has gone up due to revision of pay of executives of BSNL and merger of 50% IDA with the basic pay in respect of all employees of BSNL. Profit has also come down due to decrease in income from services.

(d) Various steps have been taken by the BSNL management for improving the profitability. This includes *inter-alia* focus on quality of service, better customer care and strengthening the sales and marketing channels to attract and retain the customers.

Retired executives of BSNL and MTNL

1352. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) number of top level executives in BSNL and MTNL that have joined private telecom companies after their retirement during the last eight years;

(b) whether these officers had taken permission from Government as required; and

(c) if not, whether any action has been taken against them for violation of relevant rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Three top level officers, working on deemed deputation in BSNL, have joined the private telecom companies.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The pension of one officer has been withheld for two years as per rule. Similar action in respect of remaining two officers is being finalized.

Phone firms

1353. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether phone firms have been charged with misreporting their revenues to lower payout and DoT is conducting audits on operators like Bharti Airtel, Reliance Communications, Vodafone Essar Ltd. and Idea Cellular Ltd. to check on this;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government received Rs. 4200 crores as telecom licence fee in first two quarter of fiscal 2009 and it was 8100 crores in the previous fiscal;

(d) if so, details thereof;

(e) whether cell phone operators association had sought a uniform licence fee of 1 per cent of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) excluding 15e 5 per cent USO charge; and

(f) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Certain phone firms have been charged with misreporting their revenue. Hence, DoT has decided to conduct Special Audit of Bharti Airtel, Reliance Communications, Vodafone Essar Ltd., Idea Cellular Ltd. and Tata Teleservices Ltd.

(c) and (d) Collection of Telecom License fee in first two quarter of fiscal 2008-09 is Rs. 4736.46 crores and collection in previous fiscal year 2007-08 is Rs. 8826.45 crores.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The COAI *vide* letter dated 29.04.2009 has submitted that the revenue share license fee should be prescribed at a uniform rate of 1% of AGR and the same should not include the USO levy. The aspect of USO levy should be dealt with separately. Further, it is requested to the Government to implement the uniform license fee structure for the telecom sector.

Landline subscription of Delhi and Mumbai

1354. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that landline subscribers of Delhi and Mumbai can talk in between without any STD charges; and

(b) if so, what is preventing Government to extend such facilities to other metropolitan cities like Chennai and Kolkata?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Yes, Sir. Landline subscribers of MTNL in Delhi and Mumbai can talk to each other without any STD charges.

(b) As per the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act of 1997, the power to regulate tariff of telecom services in the country is vested with TRAI. TRAI, in exercise of its powers, has put most of the tariffs (except Rural, National Roaming and leased circuits) under forbearance. This implies that all service providers, including BSNL and MTNL, are at liberty to offer tariffs according to needs of subscribers and market conditions. Till now, BSNL has not found extension of such facility to other metropolitan cities like Chennai and Kolkata financially viable.

Facelift to areas surrounding monuments

1355. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 165 given in the Rajya Sabha on 17th February, 2009 and state:

(a) whether Humayun's Tomb and surrounding areas in Delhi would be in a presentable state before 2010 Commonwealth Games for the benefits of the visitors;