

challenges, and we welcome a dialogue between them. As we have said before, the pace, scope and character of that dialogue is something that Indian and Pakistani leaders will decide on their own terms and in their own time.”

(d) The relations between India and the US, in the last few years, have been transformed into a strategic partnership. The new Governments in USA and India have reiterated their commitment to further strengthen and deepen the Indo-US bilateral relationship.

The two Governments are presently engaged in implementing various provisions of the Agreement on Civil Nuclear Cooperation.

**Removal of tainted officers' names from the website of  
Vigilance Commission**

†\*198. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that names of the tainted officers have been removed from the website of Vigilance Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons;

(c) whether it is a fact that chargesheets/memos against these officers could not be filed for want of permission from the concerned department;

(d) the details thereof alongwith reasons; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by Government to eradicate corruption at the Administrative level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) In December, 1999, the Commission decided to publish the list of officers of organized services against whom it had advised initiation of criminal/departmental proceedings for major penalty *w.e.f.* 01.01.1990. The list was displayed on the website and was being updated till August, 2002 in accordance with the records available with the Commission. Thereafter, the Commission decided to display names of only those officers against whom major penalty had been imposed. The list of such officers continues to be displayed on the Commission's website on monthly basis.

(c) and (d) In view of the facts stated above, the question does not arise.

(e) Government is fully committed to implement its policy of [Zero Tolerance against Corruption] and is moving progressively to eradicate corruption from all spheres of life by improving transparency and accountability. Several steps have been taken to combat corruption and to improve the functioning of Government. These include:—

(i) Issue of Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004;

(ii) Enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005;

(iii) The pro-active involvement of Ministry/Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance as a preventive measure;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (iv) Issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting process by the CVC;
- (v) Issue of instructions by the CVC asking the organizations to adopt integrity pact in major Government procurement activities; Similar instructions have been issued by the Central Government on 16th June, 2009 advising the State Governments to adopt integrity pact in major procurements;
- (vi) India is amongst the countries who have signed the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
- (vii) Introduction of e-Governance and simplification of procedures and systems;
- (viii) Issue of Citizen Charters.

#### **Call drop**

†\*199. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the consumers are bearing the heavy loss and companies are reaping the benefits out of call drop while talking on mobile phone;

(b) whether Government is also aware that as a result of this, two private companies have earned profit to the tune of around Rs. 1700 crore in recent time;

(c) whether Government is going to make such provisions through TRAI by which call drop does not take place and if it does, then consumer does not have to bear the loss; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA):

(a) Although call drop causes inconvenience to consumers, it cannot be termed as an act of companies to reap benefits.

(b) Government has no such information.

(c) and (d) Call drop in wireless networks cannot be avoided completely. The call drop can happen due to inadequate coverage, interference etc. The customer moving from a coverage area to a non-coverage area may experience call drop. In such cases also, call charges are levied to the customers upto the duration of the call and rounded to the pulse rate which is generally of one minute duration.

TRAI had examined the issue of charging for short duration calls, which may happen due to call drops. However, it was not found feasible to implement a separate system of charging for short duration calls.

TRAI has reviewed the Quality of Service regulations recently and notified on 20th March, 2009 "The Standards of Quality of Service of Basic Telephone Service (Wireline) and Cellular Mobile

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.