

- (c) whether any out sourcing system is implemented in BSNL;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government has any policy to fill up the existing vacancies in a time bounded programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As on 24th July, 2009, the working strength of employees is 2,96,695 against the sanction strength 3,90,640.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The outsourcing system is implemented in BSNL for security/watch and ward of major telecom installations, House keeping, Mobile Call Centre services, maintenance of New Technology (NT) exchanges and Base Transceiver Station (BTS) etc.

(e) Creation and filling up of posts are continuous process. Keeping in view the fast changing business as well as technological scenario, need-based recruitments by direct recruitment as well as internal promotions are being done.

KSWAN project

2895. SHRI ANIL H. LAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Information Technology, Government of India received proposal from Karnataka Government for reassessing the adequacy of the bandwidth sanctioned for the KSWAN (Karnataka State Wide Area Network) Project; and

(b) if so, the status of the proposal thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Karnataka State Government has been communicated that the charges for bandwidth capacity requirement over and above the ceiling of 4 Mbps between State HQ and district HQ and 2 Mbps between District HQ and block HQ due to its perceived higher usage level, have to be met by the State Government from its own budget. As such, any decision of additional bandwidth and associated cost over and above the approved capacity would be decided at the level of State Wide Area Network (SWAN) Implementation Committee.

Outstanding dues

2896. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the outstanding amount of private telephone operators to BSNL have been continuously increasing over the past few years and they have not shown interest in paying the dues in times;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the details of the outstanding dues by private operators to BSNL as on date; and
 (d) the steps taken by Government to recover the outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The outstanding amount of Private Telephone Operators payable to BSNL have not been increasing but have been decreasing from year to year. Comparative figures of the outstanding dues for the last three financial years are given as follows:—

(Amount in Rs. crores)

2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1908.24	1905.33	1373.19

Most of the Private Telephone Operators are paying the current bills in time except in case of disputes.

(c) Service wise outstanding of Private Operators due to BSNL as on 31.05.09 is as follows:—

(i) Basic Service	Rs. 668.86 crore
(ii) Cellular Service	Rs. 239.94 crore
(iii) NLD Service	Rs. 185.33 crore
(iv) ILD Service	Rs. 251.81 crore
TOTAL:	Rs. 1,345.94 crore

- (d) Following steps have been taken by BSNL to recover the outstanding dues:—
- A mechanism has been put in place to constantly review the outstanding dues of private operators at Circle and Corporate Office level.
 - The Corporate Office BSNL has been regularly asking the Circle Heads to pursue the Private Operators for making payment due to BSNL in time.
 - Instructions have also been issued to Circles to proceed against defaulting Private Operators as per provision of Interconnect Agreement.
 - Bank Guarantees have been obtained from all Private Operators to securities BSNL revenues. There is a provision in the Interconnect Agreement to recover the dues from Bank Guarantee in case of default in payment.

Mobile towers

†2897. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:
 SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:
 SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.