

(ii) CSC Project - DIT has approved Common Service Centre project for Kerala for establishing 3180 CSCs at a total approved outlay of Rs. 1.80 Crores.

(d) Does not arise.

**Stamp on Sri Sri and Guntur Seshendra Sharma**

582. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to release a stamp on Sri Sri and Guntur Seshendra Sharma who are famous in Telugu culture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when such stamps would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) No, Sir. No such proposal is under consideration of this Department.

(b) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

(c) The proposal for issue of special/commemorative postage stamps are examined only after receipt from the proponents in the light of existing guidelines laid down by the Philatelic Advisory Committee.

**Pension in BSNL and MTNL**

583. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is paying differential attitude towards BSNL and MTNL, whereas the officers and employees working in BSNL are getting pension from Government but officers and employees working in MTNL are not getting pension;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the profit of both BSNL and MTNL for last years;

(d) whether it is much less than the private players; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Pension payment in Public Sector Units (PSUs) formed by conversion of Government Departments and en-masse transfer of employees is regulated by Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972. As per these rules, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is only such PSU for which liability of pension payment lies with the Government.

(c) Profit of both BSNL and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) for the last three years is given below:

Years	BSNL (Rs. in Crores)	MTNL (Rs. in crores)
2005-06	8939.69	580.29
2006-07	7805.87	681.74
2007-08	3009.39	586.89

The accounts of financial year 2008-09 are under compilation and audit.

(d) and (e) No such comparison of profit of MTNL/BSNL and private operators, in general, is maintained in DoT.

#### **GSM network in the Southern Region**

584. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

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

(a) the details of tendering process followed by BSNL for awarding GSM network in the country, particularly in the Southern Region;

(b) whether it is true that the contract has been awarded to Huawei, a Chinese company, for GSM network in the Southern Region;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is true that IB has raised strong objection in awarding contract to Chinese firms in view of sensitivity of the area; and

(e) if so, what prompted BSNL to give contract to Chinese firm for Southern Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Sir, the tender for procurement of 93 million lines for GSM equipment was floated by the four zones of BSNL on 01.05.2008. The tender was floated for 25 million lines each by NORTH, WEST and SOUTH zones and for 18 million lines by the EAST zone. Two stage evaluation is adopted i.e. (i) Techno-commercial evaluation and (ii) Financial evaluation. Financial bids are opened only for the bidders whose bids are found to be techno-commercially eligible.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) Ministry of Home Affairs / Intelligence Bureau have raised concern over the presence of foreign companies, especially from certain countries in the critical and sensitive border areas, that may have national security implications. Accordingly, a security guideline was issued to BSNL.

(e) Does not arise in view of (b) above.