

- (v) Government has been supporting Anti-Piracy Campaign of NASSCOM include (i) Strict implementation of Code of Conductor for member companies of NASSCOM, (ii) Distribution of brochures and stickers explaining about “Software Piracy and the Law”, (iii) Anti Piracy Billboards, Hotline for piracy complaints.
- (vi) The market competition has also been instrumental in reducing the costs, thus making the products affordable and hence bringing down the piracy. The introduction of software services is another step towards countering piracy.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) As per statistics available with National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the number of arrests made during the period January 2006 to June, 2007 is 9649. This information was presented during the 3rd meeting of Copyright Enforcement Advisory Council (set up under MHRD) held in October, 2007.

Wages in BSNL

2893. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of casual labours and contract workers that are engaged in BSNL;
- (b) the amount of wages paid to them; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal to increase their wages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Sir, 3361 casual labourers are engaged in BSNL.

In so far as contract workers are concerned, as a policy BSNL does not recruit people on contract basis. However, certain jobs are outsourced through contractors. The number of workers employed by the contractors varies from time to time depending upon the nature of the job.

(b) BSNL does not maintain separate account for the wages paid to the casual labourers. However, the amount booked under “Wages” during the year 2008-09 is Rs. 33,49,44,362/-.

Contract workers are paid wages by the contractors as per Government guidelines.

(c) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to increase wages for casual labour.

The Contractors are instructed to pay the wages as fixed by the Government. The wages are revised whenever the Government revises the same.

Employees of BSNL

2894. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any decrease in the number of employees working in BSNL;
- (b) the status of existing employees against the sanctioned strength in BSNL;