

Statement

Details of the effective steps taken to recover the outstanding dues by BSNL and MTNL

BSNL and MTNL have taken following steps to recover the outstanding dues:—

- (1) Automatic payment reminders are issued through Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) to persuade the customers to make payment before disconnection of their telephones.
- (2) Phones are disconnected as per the prescribed schedule in case of non payment of dues by customers. This is followed by permanent closure of telephone and adjustment of security deposit against the outstanding dues.
- (3) Unit-wise and year-wise targets are fixed for recovery/liquidation of outstanding dues and progress in this regard is closely monitored at the Corporate level and suitable instructions are issued from time to time to field units for improving the recovery of dues.
- (4) Recovery Agents are employed for making recoveries.
- (5) Various discount/incentive schemes are launched for recovery of outstanding from defaulting subscribers.
- (6) Legal proceedings wherever required are initiated against the defaulters for recovery of dues;
- (7) BSNL has requested various State Government to amend their respective land revenue Acts, so that outstanding telephone dues of BSNL can be recovered as land revenue arrears.
- (8) MTNL is implementing a Revenue Assurance program to maximize the revenue billing and revenue realization. It has also deployed a reputed firm to conduct Revenue Assurance Audit of its landline interconnect billing process. Convergent billing system is also being introduced by MTNL for improving of dues.

2G spectrum allocation

2114. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

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

- (a) whether the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has recently decided to fix responsibilities for large scale irregularities unearthed by it in the controversial 2G spectrum allocations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether CVC has alleged that large scale bungling have been made in the spectrum allocation to private parties; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and corrective measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (c) Such decision has not yet been taken by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC). However, the CVC has recently taken up the matter relating to the alleged irregularities in the 2G spectrum allocations for direct investigation and the investigation is under progress.

(d) The Government is waiting for the report of the above said investigation and shall initiate appropriate action based on the report.

Indian Telephone Industries

2115. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government has recently decided to write off several crore losses that the State run Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) has accumulated over the past three years;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the factors responsible for losses in ITI have been assessed and if so, the steps taken to prevent such losses;

(d) whether Government now propose to hive off some units of ITI; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. ITI has been incurring losses for many years, as telecommunication manufacturing sector is a highly competitive, research oriented market with rapidly changing technology leading to short product life and high obsolescence rate. To enable ITI to compete in such an environment, it has been decided to take following measures:—

- (i) To set up three Joint Venture/Special Purpose Vehicle by inducting strategic partner(s) for manufacturing new products such as WiMax, IP core network and Gigabit Ethernet Passive Optical Network (GEAPON) at Rae Bareilly, Naini and Bangalore. The Government also provide additional proportionate equity in the Special Purpose Vehicles/Joint Ventures apart from making some of the existing infrastructure with ITI at Rae Bareilly, Naini and Bangalore available for immediate carrying out of such activities *i.e.* land, building and manpower selected by the strategic partner(s).