

Counter Affidavits to the memorandum of appeals within four weeks. Hon'ble Supreme Court further ordered that payments, if any, if at all required to be made, will be subject to the result of BSNL's appeals.

Promotion of two hundred dollar laptop by MIT

2324. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a foreign firm Media Labs at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is in India to promote the two hundred dollar laptop which was specially designed and manufactured for children in rural areas under 'one laptop per child' project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether many States such as Manipur, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh have placed orders for 72000 laptops with them;

(d) whether the Media Labs has requested Government to remove import duties and other taxes on these laptops; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) As per a Media Report (www.mydigitaic.com), Dr. Nicholas Nagroponete, the Co-founder of media Labs at Massachusetts Institutes of Technology (MIT), is in India to promote the \$ 200 laptop, which was specially designed and manufactured for children in rural areas.

(c) The Government of Manipur has launched a pilot project by engaging OLPC (One laptop per Child) for e-learning. The project includes supply of 1000 OLPC laptops along with preloaded software and costs associated with training and demonstration.

(d) and (e) The Department of Information Technology, Government of India has not received any such proposal from the Media Labs, MIT. However, laptops in any case, being covered under ITA (Information Technology Agreement), are exempted from basic customs duty.

Creating of level playing field

2325. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is in the process of creating a level playing field between the existing operators who are able to win 3G spectrum and others who are not able to win the award of 3G spectrum;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government will mandate roaming of 2G subscribers of those operators who are not able to get 3G spectrum into the networks of other 3G operators; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?