

(b) if not, in what manner, Government plans to revive sick telephone manufacturing units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Government does not put any restriction as to which item should be manufactured by the PSUs.

(b) M/s ITI Limited is the only sick Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under the Department of Telecommunications. To enable ITI to compete in the highly competitive environment, the Government has decided to take the following measures:

- i) Released a grant of Rs. 2820 crore to ITI to clean up its balance sheet.
- ii) 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).
- iii) In principle decision to provide support of Rs. 180 crore to ITI for working capital margin.

Manufacturing of telephone instruments

753. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that all the Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) units for manufacturing telephone instruments are closed;

(b) if so, since when; and

(c) the steps being taken to restart the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) No, Sir. M/s ITI Limited has manufacturing facilities at its Bangalore, Naini and Srinagar Plants. However, due to fall in demand and drastic fall in prices, ITI is not able to utilize its full manufacturing capacity.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Growth rate of software and service companies

†754. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.