

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT) : (a) As per the Guidelines dated 22.04.2008 for intra service area Merger of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS)/Unified Access Services (UAS) Licences, any permission for merger shall be accorded only after completion of 3 years from the effective date of the licences.

(b) to (d) Sir, following companies have applied for merger/amalgamation of the companies:

- (i) M/s. Aditya Birla Telecom Limited with M/s. Idea Cellular Limited.
- (ii) M/s. Spice Communications Limited with M/s. Idea Cellular Limited.
- (iii) M/s. Allianz Infratech (Pvt.) Limited with Etisalat DB Telecom Private Ltd.

Further, as per clause 6.3(ii) of UAS licence Agreement, merger or demerger is sanctioned and approved by the High Court or Tribunal as per the law in force; in accordance with the provisions; more particularly Sections 391 to 394 of Companies Act, 1956. So far, Department of Telecom (DoT) has not given any go ahead for the merger of the companies which do not meet these licensing provisions. Intra service area Merger of CMTS/UAS Licences, shall be considered by DoT as per conditions of licence agreements and guidelines dated 22.04.2008 in this regard and after the scheme of merger/amalgamation is approved by the High Court or Tribunal as per the law in force.

Sam Pitroda Panel

2163. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:
MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Pitroda panel constituted by Government to study the functioning of BSNL has submitted its report to Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of Government to the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT) : (a) to (c) Sir, Government constituted an expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Sam Pitroda in January 2010 to review the performance of BSNL and suggest measures for improving overall performance of the company. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government. The recommendations of Pitroda Committee were deliberated in the 126th Meeting of BSNL Board on 10.3.2010. After detailed discussion, the Board broadly agreed to all the recommendations of the Committee.