(a) whether Government has asked various telecom operators including BSNL to give the accounting details of the last three financial years to C&AG for auditing;

(b) if so, whether these operators have since furnished their accounting details to C&AG;

(c) the reasons for auditing the accounts of these telecom operators; and

(d) to what extent the subscribers of the telecom operators are likely to be benefited by such audits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As of now, Reliance has furnished some information which has been passed on to C&AG.

(c) and (d) The reason for auditing the accounts of various telecom operators is to check the assessment, collections and proper allocation of revenue share due from these telecom operators to the Department of Telecom.

E-District Mission Mode Projects

2937. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be please to state:

(a) the salient features of the e-district Mission Mode Projects and the criteria for identifying pilot districts for implementation of this project;

(b) the details of the DPR submitted by M/s Wipro with regard to Kadapa and Nalgonda districts of Andhra Pradesh which have been selected by the State Government for implementation of e-district project; and

(c) by when approval for two pilot projects in above said two districts is likely to be given by his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) Pilot e-District Mission Mode Project is being implemented in 40 districts across 15 States. The objective of the MMP is to enable electronic delivery of high volume services not covered by any other MMP, Pilot districts are identified on the basis of socio economic and demographic profile of Districts and States.

(b) The DPRs have not been received by Department of Information Technology.

(c) Department of Information Technology (DIT) received a letter vide number IT&C/7119/e-Gov.1/2008 dated 25.3.2009 from Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding inclusion of 2 districts namely Kadapa and Khammam districts under e-district Pilot Project. DIT *vide* its letter No.3(104)/2008.EG.II dated 23.4.2009 has informed the State Government that these 2 districts will get covered under the proposed national rollout of e-district project.

Confidentiality of Information

2938. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telecom regulator TRAI has directed mobile operators to furnish the details of the steps taken by them to protect confidentiality of information about their subscribers within 15 days;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the allegation of breach of confidentiality of information are being raised by customers before different courts, consumers fora and authority itself and consumer groups have alleged that operators have not taken adequate steps to put in places a fool proof mechanism for ensuring confidentiality; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to protect confidentiality of customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Sir, TRAI has issued directions to all Cellular Mobile and Access Service Providers on 26th February 2010 to ensure compliance of the terms and conditions of the License by the service providers regarding confidentiality of information of subscriber and privacy of communications. The copy of the said directions is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) It has been noticed by TRAI that allegations of breach of confidentiality of information of the subscribers and privacy of communications are being raised by the customers before different courts (*viz*.. Writ Petition No. (C) 11512 of 2009 filed by Amit Gupta *vs* TRAI & Ors before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, Civil Petition No. 583 of 2007 COAI *vs* Nivedita Sharma before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, Writ Petition Civil No. 35 of 2005 titled "Dr. Harsh Pathak *vs*. Union of India & Others before Hon'ble Supreme Court etc.) and consumer fora and also before the TRAI by some consumers and consumers groups which indicate that the service providers have not taken adequate steps to put in place a foolproof mechanism for ensuring confidentiality of information of the subscribers and privacy of communications.