

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.

#### **Communication in 33 LWE districts**

2927. MS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the special projects Government is planning to start on the front of communication in 33 Left Wing Extremism (LWE) districts of India;

(b) whether Government is aware that most of the time landlines and mobile telephones do not work in these areas;

(c) whether Government has any special plan to make broadband facilities available at the panchayat level in these LWE districts; and

(d) if so, the time-frame thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Sir, no such project is under consideration in respect of Left Wing Extremist (LWE) districts of India. However, the mobile and landline services by BSNL in LWE districts are working satisfactorily

(c) and (d) The Village Panchayats in LWE districts are planned to be covered using Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line 2 plus (ADSL2+) (Wireline) and Wimax (Wireless) technologies by June 2012.

#### **More Services in Department of Posts**

2928. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Department of Posts is being revamped to include more services, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Yes, Sir. Department has introduced a variety of new products and services to meet changing customer demands.

(b) (i) The Department has introduced retailing of Mutual Funds of various Fund houses, non-life insurance products of Oriental Insurance Company, pension products of ICICI Prudential and

introduced Point of Presence for New Pension Scheme in selected post offices in association with Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

(ii) It has introduced International Money Transfer in collaboration with Western Union Financial Services for receiving remittance from 205 countries on a real time basis.

(iii) Department has tied-up with Ministry of Railways for reservation of Railway tickets from identified post offices.

(iv) To meet international requirements a joint outward International Express Service called "World Net Express" in association with M/s Deutsche Post has been started. World Net Express is a premium Express Service offering dedicated website and tracking of articles *via* internet, telephone and SMS.

(v) "MO Videsh" has been introduced for inward and outward international remittances from India Post to more than 50 Member countries worldwide has been started. International Flat Rate Boxes as a simple customized solution for outward International Parcel in order to attract parcel market to India has been introduced.

#### **Bid for Indian Telephone Industry**

2929. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has failed to get any bid for Indian Telephone Industry despite initial interest shown by some foreign manufacturers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the ITI has also proposed to form three joint ventures in which it could have had 26-49 per cent stake each; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (d) The Government on 23.02.2009 had accorded "in principal" approval for formation of three joint venture companies (JVC) by ITI for the following products:

Sl. No.	Product	Location of JVC
1.	WI-MAX Base Station Trans Receiver Equipments and associated Customer Premises Equipments	Rae Bareli
2.	GPON/GEAPON and Optical Transmission Equipments	Naini
3.	IP Core Systems	Bangalore