

(c) whether Government has not been able to lay down rule for bidders eligibility and auctioning etc. till date; and

(d) the time by which dispute is likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Yes, Sir. Process is likely to start in the year 2009-10.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Detailed guidelines for auction and allocation of 3G spectrum were issued on 1st August 2008 and certain amendments on 11th September 2008. Revised Information Memorandum (RIM) containing details including rule for bidders, eligibility of 3G auction etc. was released on 23.10.2009.

Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) incorporating technical, legal and financial aspects associated with auction of 3G spectrum is being issued shortly.

Rebate on investment for establishing IT centre

†288. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has made provision for giving hundred per cent income tax rebate on investment in establishing information technology centre/institution etc. in certain States, including Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, the time since when this provision has been made and the extent of development made due to this;

(c) the reasons for depriving Madhya Pradesh of this facility despite it being an industrially backward State; and

(d) whether Government would consider the provision of rebate on investment for Madhya Pradesh also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (c) As per information available with the Ministry of Finance, (Department of Revenue), under the provisions of section 80-IC of the Income Tax Act, 1961, one hundred per cent deduction of profits and gains for five Assessment Years (AYs) commencing with the initial Assessment Year and thereafter, twenty five per cent (thirty per cent in case of companies) is available to eligible undertakings or enterprises in the States of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand if the operations commence any time during the period 7.1.2003 to 31.3.2012. The deduction is available for a maximum of ten Assessment Years (AYs). The activities/articles/things/operations specified in the Fourteenth Schedule of the Act for eligibility of

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the business for claiming deduction under Section-1C in the two States, include "Information and Communications Technology Industry, Computer hardware, Call Centers". Section 80-1C was inserted in the Income Tax Act, 1961 by the Finance Act, 2003 with effect from 1.4.2004.

- (d) There is no such proposal.

One paisa per second call charges

289. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the service providers of mobile phones in the country have introduced one paisa per second call charges from the consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that these service providers do not reveal the hidden charges and rentals to the customers;

(d) if so, whether Government proposes to direct these service providers to make their hidden charges public in transparent manner for the benefit of mobile users; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir Most of the service providers of mobile phones in the country have introduced per second billing system in some of their tariff offers. The call charges in these plans are generally 1 paise/1.2 paise per second for on-net/off-net calls. Such offers are currently being offered by BSNL, MTNL, Loop, Airtel, Vodafone, TATA, Idea, MTS, Reliance and S Tel.

(c) to (e) Regulation of Tariff has been mandated to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) *vide* TRAI Act of 1997. TRAI, in exercise of its powers, has issued various regulatory guidelines for ensuring transparency in provision of telecom services and marketing thereof by the service providers in the country. As per these guidelines, the operators are required to intimate subscribers full details of the tariff plans including the rental and other fixed charges, if any.

IMEI numbers

290. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that service to all mobiles which does not have International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) numbers have been disconnected from December, 2009, as decided earlier; and

(b) if so, the number of connections disconnected by each service provider?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Directions were issued on 27th April 2009 that calls