

(b) In 1993, about 1,25,000 engineers obtained their degree/diploma from our engineering institutions (engineering colleges and polytechnics), whereas in 2003, about 2,50,000 engineers graduated in the country. In other words, as compared to the last decade, the outturn has doubled.

(c) No; Sir. Though the employment opportunities for engineers have increased, the outturn is more than the opportunities available for the engineers.

(d) Due to mismatch between availability of engineers and availability of opportunities, the number of unemployed engineers is on the increase. As per the estimate, around 2.00 lakhs engineers remained unemployed at the end of the year 2003 out of those who passed out during 1999-2002.

Recovery from RIM for misuse of ILD calls

***239. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Telecommunications has set up vigilance telecom cell in all metro cities to curb the menace of illegal international long distance calls; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Telecom Department proceeded against Reliance Indian Mobile for the recovering of the amount for misuse of ILD as local calls?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN) : (a) Vigilance Telecom Monitoring Cells have been set up in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Hyderabad to curb menace of illegal international calls.

(b) The Department of Telecommunications proceeded against M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd. for violation of licence conditions for misuse of international long distance calls as local calls and a notice has been issued for imposing a penalty of Rs. 150 crores for violation of conditions of licence agreement.

Further, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) has issued notices to M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd. to pay Rs. 263 crores against 517 notices. M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd. has approached Delhi High Court and an interim stay has been granted against disconnection of Points of Interconnection. M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd., has so far paid approximately Rs. 100 crores against this demand as per the orders of the Supreme Court, Rs. 182.71 crores is payable before 31.12.2004.

Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (MTNL) has made a claim of Rs. 341.27 crores against M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd. and so far approximately Rs. 67 crores has been paid against the claim raised. M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd. has approached Delhi High Court in this case.

Separate telecom sector for Bhadohi

***240. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bhadohi, forming an independent revenue district is still under the jurisdiction of Telecom District Varanasi;

(b) whether representations are pending with the Centre, pleading for a separate telecom district status for Bhadohi, in view of it's being main center for carpet manufacturing and export in India;

(c) whether Bhadohi generates large telecom revenue through large number of ISD call traffic and is expected to be declared as Special Economic Zone; and

(d) if so, whether in view of the present status as international export center, Government would consider forming a separate telecom district for Bhadohi?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) Bhadohi revenue district is part of Varanasi Telecom District/Secondary Switching Area (SSA).

(b) Representations for a separate Telecom District status for Bhadohi had been received in past but formation of the same was not found feasible due to administrative, operational and technical reasons.

(c) For Bhadohi revenue district, ISD call units are approximately 4% of