

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) No, Sir. The spectrum has been assigned to BSNL for Broadband Wireless Access in the frequency band 2.5-2.69 GHz which is internationally identified for IMT applications which inter-alia includes BWA. The spectrum in 2.5-2.69 GHz band allotted for BSNL & in 2.3-2.4 GHz band allotted to private companies have been identified for IMT applications as per International Telecommunication Union-Radio Sector. It is for the service provider to select a specific technology to provide the service using assigned spectrum. The Government adopts technology neutral approach and do not enforce them to use specific technology.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) No, Sir.

Auction of spectrum

983. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that auction of spectrum might yield immediate revenue but runs the risk of sacrificing enormous growth potential for the economy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) The Government has not conducted any study regarding immediate revenue generation through auction of spectrum versus risk of sacrificing enormous growth potential of the economy. However, a committee in DoT has been constituted for making recommendations on National Telecom Policy 2011, the details of which are being worked out.

Complaints regarding MNP

984. SHRI R.C SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that some of the cellular service providers are not permitting their customers to avail Mobile Number Portability (MNP) facility;

(b) whether any complaints have been received in this regard either in the Ministry or the BSNL/MTNL;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action the Ministry has taken against such operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (c) As per the feedback received from Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and subscribers some problems have been noted in porting the numbers. In general the reported problems in porting are:

(i) Port-out request are rejected by donor stating reason as less than 90 days of activation even though numbers have worked for more than 90 days.

(ii) Non-disconnection of ported out number and non-updation of number Portability Database by Donor in case of successfully ported out numbers.

(iii) Rejection of port-out request by donor under contractual obligations.

(iv) Delayed generation/non-generation of Unique Porting Code (UPC) due to failure of UPC generating system.

(d) A close watch on the matter is being kept by Telecom Enforcement Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cells and based on the feedbacks received from TSPs/subscribers, the TSPs have been called for meetings to resolve the issues. In addition TRAI has also sought compliance of various provisions of 'The Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability Regulations, 2009 as amended' from the TSPs.

Health hazards from radiation from mobile towers and phones

985. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether JNU has found that the exposure to radiation from mobile towers and mobile phones could have an adverse impact on male fertility and also poses health hazards by depleting the defence mechanism of cells;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and