

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Bharti after extension of licence period from 10 to 20 years, without any extra charge, diluted approximately 30 per cent of stake in 2001 for around Rs. 2100 crores, thereby increasing its valuation to Rs. 7000 crores; and

(d) if so, the action taken against the officials of DoT so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Losses to exchequer due to underestimation of subscriber base**

3314. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharti Airtel was issued licence for Delhi Metro region in 1994 without entry fee, and condition to pay Rs. 2 crores in 1st year, Rs. 4 crores in 2nd year, and Rs. 8 crores in third year and thereafter a licence fee of Rs. 6023/- per person per annum;

(b) if so, the details of fee paid by the company in first four years of its operation;

(c) whether CAG had indicted in 1998 that the actual number of subscribers were more than actual projections made by DoT for fixing licence fee; and

(d) if so, the quantum of loss incurred due to underestimation of subscriber base?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Sir, M/s Bharti Cellular Limited (now Bharti Airtel Limited) had been granted Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Licence with effective date as 29.11.1994 for providing cellular mobile telephone service in Delhi Metro service area. As per licence condition, the Licence fee payable by Licensee for Delhi Metro service area was as follows:

Service Area	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year
Delhi	Rupees 2 crores	Rupees 4 crores	Rupees 8 crores

Further, as per licence condition the License fee was revised from 4th year onwards and the licence fee payable was fixed at Rs. 6,02,300 per hundred subscriber or part thereof; subject to the minimum Rs. 12 crores per year (fourth to sixth year) and Rs. 16 crores per year (seventh year onwards).

The details of license fee paid by M/s. Bharti Airtel Limited in first four years of its operation for Delhi Metro service Area are as under:

Sl. No.	Description	Year	Licensee fee paid
1	1st Year	1995-96	20,000,000
2	2nd Year	1996-97	40,000,000
3	3rd Year	1997-98	80,000,000
4	4th Year	1998-99	240,000,000

(c) CAG in its report of 1998 had mentioned that the actual number of subscribers were more than projections made by DoT for fixing licence fee. The details of subscribers mentioned in CAG report are as under:

	Mumbai Number in thousands	Delhi Number in thousands	Calcutta Number in thousands	Chennai Number in thousands
Assumed No. of subscribers				
I Years	12	8	10	5
II Year	28	16	14	10
III Year	44	28	20	16
Actual number of subscribers				
I year *	31.58	42.91	11.93	10.24
II Year *	116.64	149.09	35.99	31.66
III Year **	186.42	199.46	57.19	45.82

\* Aggregated monthly average.

\*\* At the beginning of the third year.

- (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Privatisation of post offices**

†3315. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has profited sufficiently from post-offices of the country during the last three financial years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that efforts are being made at various levels to privatise the whole structure of post offices in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) No, the Department of Post has been running in deficit during the last three Financial Years.

- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

- (c) The deficit of the Department of Posts during the last three Financial Years is as under:

(Rs. in crore)			
Year	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
	3593.09	6641.30	6345.62

- (d) No, there is no effort to privatise the structure of Post offices in the country.

**Slowing down of income margins for IT sector**

3316. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact in the first quarter of the present fiscal, though IT companies' income has increased, the margins have slowed down;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.