

Communication facilities in hinterland of Kashmir

1431. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the hinterland of Kashmir like Keran and Machil had no communication facilities like telephones and mobile services; and

(b) if so, the measures which would be taken to do the needful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Sir, presently the Village Public Telephones (VPTs) working through Digital Satellite Phone Terminal (DSPT) have been provided in Keran and Machil. The no. of Keran VPT is 089919224052 and that of Machil is 08991924133.

Sabotage of MTNL cables

1432. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of intentional sabotage of MTNL cables have been reported to Government;

(b) if so, the frequency and figures of such instances in recent years thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in some instances people responsible for it were reportedly hired by private operators; and

(d) if so, the number of such instances and action taken in this regard till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) No such case has been reported.

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

Subscriber base of BSNL and MTNL

1433. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made since 2004 to increase the subscriber base of BSNL and MTNL; and

(b) the number of subscribers in each network separately for landline and mobile services since then, year-wise?