

- (d) whether various telecom service providers have started working on such directions;
- (e) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (f) the details of the mechanism to monitor implementation of such directions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had issued Direction on 27th July, 2012 to Telecom Service Providers for delivering broadband services in a transparent manner by providing adequate information to the broadband consumers about various plans offered under Fair Usage Policy (FUP).

Through this Direction, telecom service providers have been directed, *inter-alia*, to provide adequate information on Fair Usage Policy (FUP); to ensure that speed of broadband connection in all broadband tariff plans is not reduced below the minimum speed specified and to provide alerts to consumers when their data usage reaches 80% and 100% of the data usage limit bundled with the plan.

(c) The TRAI received complaints from consumers and consumer organizations stating that service providers are not delivering broadband services in a transparent manner as they are not providing adequate information to the consumers regarding broadband services including broadband plans with Fair Usage Policy (FUP).

(d) and (e) Some of the service providers have started providing the information to their consumers as per the tariff plans submitted to TRAI. Service providers have also started providing the information through their website.

(f) Telecom Service Providers are to comply with the provisions of reporting requirement specified by Telecommunication Tariff Order wherein all service providers are required to report to the TRAI any new tariff for telecommunication services and/or any changes therein within seven days from the date of implementation of the said tariff.

Security risks from outsourcing of major IT projects

3007. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the greater security risks the country is facing in the process of outsourcing of major IT projects and the fast growing cloud computing market;

- (b) if so, the details thereof, sector-wise;
- (c) whether Government is prepared for cyber attacks from terrorists leading to failures in various essential services;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any particular Government agency is responsible for finding out sources for cyber attacks; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Information Technology (IT) is significantly transforming the business operations both in public and private sector. Further, IT revolution has benefited common people and society in various aspects such as communications, education and faster communications. Outsourcing of IT projects has emerged as a business necessity, which not only reduces cost of operation, but also improves efficiency, productivity, competence and competitiveness. Similarly, Cloud Computing provides benefits to both Government and businesses in terms of costs and implementation.

The security risks associated with outsourcing and cloud-computing include data segregation, data privacy, service provider viability, availability and data recovery. Such issues are applicable to outsourcing and Cloud Computing world-wide. Countries and Organizations are engaged in evolving appropriate framework to address the issues. Although the primary ownership lies with the organization (public or private) outsourcing their operations, the service providers are made liable for security risks through legal bindings, contracts and specific conditions.

(c) and (d) The following steps has been implemented by Government to prevent cyber attacks:—

- (i) The organizations operating critical information infrastructure are regularly advised to implement information security management practices based on International Standard ISO 27001.
- (ii) All Central Government Ministries/Departments and State/Union Territory Governments have been advised to conduct security auditing of their entire Information Technology infrastructure including websites periodically, to discover gaps with respect to security practices and take appropriate corrective actions.

- (iii) "Crisis Management Plan for countering cyber attacks and cyber terrorism" has been prepared by the Government and circulated for implementation by all Ministries/Departments of Central Government, State Governments and all their organizations and critical sectors.
- (iv) Section 66F of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides stringent punishment up to life imprisonment for an act of cyber terrorism.

(e) and (f) Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) is the national nodal agency for responding to computer security incidents. It provides Incident prevention and response services as well as security quality management services. Attack methodology and attack sources are analyzed by CERT-In on the basis of available logs provided by the organizations affected in a cyber attack. Findings of analysis, including vulnerabilities exploited, Internet Protocol address of attack origin and measures to be taken to mitigate the vulnerabilities are advised to the affected organizations.

Surplus land of VSNL

3008. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether DoT has finalised the merger of surplus land of VSNL;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, who is responsible for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no proposal of merger of surplus land of VSNL (Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited). However, the Government has finalized the process of demerger of surplus land of VSNL through acquiring 51.12% stake in realty company M/s Hemisphere Properties India Limited formed by Strategic Partner (M/s Panatone Finvest Limited).

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

Sharing of data by telecom companies

†3009. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.