

Efforts of Government are directed at revitalizing agriculture sector and improving condition of farming community on sustainable basis by increasing investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure and delivery of credit, technology and other inputs, extension, marketing etc. under various programmes/schemes. Government is focusing on enhancement of farm income, creation of non-farm income opportunities, improvement in productivity of rainfed agriculture, increasing coverage of farming areas under protective irrigation and forging appropriate backward and forward linkages.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No papers, please. *...(Interruptions)...* No papers, please. *...(Interruptions)...* Please don't show any newspapers. *...(Interruptions)...* No; no. *...(Interruptions)...* No newspapers. *...(Interruptions)...* No banners; no newspapers. *...(Interruptions)...* Q. No. 381. *...(Interruptions)...* Do you wish to ask any supplementaries, Mr. Raut? *...(Interruptions)...* No supplementaries. *...(Interruptions)...* Shall we go to Question No. 382? *...(Interruptions)...*

The House is adjourned till 1200 hours.

The House then adjourned at four minutes past eleven of the clock.

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The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock,  
MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

#### Use of cell phones with same IMEI number

\*382. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 18,000 cell phones were found to be using the same International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) number;
- (b) the manner in which Government would ensure that only those phones which are certified by the authorised bodies for GSM and CDMA are used; and
- (c) the other steps taken by Government to prevent the anti-social elements from using unauthorised sets, which leads to their being untraceable?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Two cases have come to notice wherein same IMEIs has been used in more than 18000 cell phones.

- (b) i. Directions were issued on 27th April, 2009 that calls from mobile handsets without International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) or with all zeroes as IMEI are not processed and rejected with effect from

2400 hours of 30th June, 2009. Further, directions were issued on 3rd September, 2009 that calls from mobile handsets with any IMEI number which is not available in the latest updated IMEI database of GSMA, (Global System for Mobile Communications Association) alongwith without IMEI or all zeroes as IMEI are also not processed and rejected with effect from 2400 hours of 30th Nov., 2009. Similar instructions were issued in respect of Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA)-based networks for handsets without Electronic Serial Number (ESN)/Mobile Equipment Identifier (MEID) numbers. Further, Ministry of Commerce has already banned import of mobile handsets without IMEI or with all zeroes IMEI as well as CDMA handsets without Electronic Serial Number (ESN)/(Mobile Equipment Identifier (MEID) or with all zeroes ESN/MEID.

- ii. Telecom Enforcement Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cells also monitor the use of handsets with replicated International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI).

(c) At present it is difficult to differentiate between the original handset and duplicated handset with same IMEI. However, Department of Telecommunications is examining the issue to find out possible solutions to resolve the issue of illegal IMEI and use of same IMEI in different cell phones.

#### **Allotment of development funds to Railway Zones**

\*383. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 17 Railway Zones in the country, 13 Zones are running in losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that although South Central Railway is giving regular profits to Railways, it is being constantly neglected in allotment of development funds;

(d) whether there is any policy or guidelines for allotment of development funds to Railway Zones as per their performance;

(e) if not, whether Government is planning any policy in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MUKUL ROY): (a) and (b) Individual cost and profit centre concept does not exist in respect of individual zones on Indian Railways. Due to varying pattern of traffic, revenue *vis-a-vis* expenditure is not always