thereafter, of fifty per cent of the ploughed back export profit for next 5 years, (iv) The Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry through Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) and Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme assists exporters for export promotion activities abroad. (v)Also, a high level Committee has been constituted to review taxation of Development Centres and the IT Sector so as to have a fair tax system in line with best international practice which will promote India's software industry and promote India as a destination for investment and for establishment of Development Centres.

Use of subsidised diesel by cellular operators

1471. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a)   the corrective actions taken by the Ministry on the fact that cellular operators are using subsidised diesel in generators for their mobile towers and the consumption of subsidised diesel is increasing rapidly; and

(b)   whether Government is going to issue directives to Mobile Operators to use solar energy for their mobile towers so that consumption of subsidised diesel can be avoided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) The Diesel available in market is being used to run the generator sets to power Mobile Base Terminal Stations as standby power supply. The Government has accepted the TRAI recommendations on Green Energy applications and issued directives to the licensees/all ILD service providers to adopt measures to green the Telecom sector by providing hybrid power [Renewable Energy Technologies (RET) + Grid power] of at least 50% of all rural towers & 20% of urban towers by 2015 and 75% of rural towers and 33% of urban towers by 2020.

Mobile phone network in Nathu La

1472. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no mobile phone network in Nathu La, where Indian soldiers have been using Chinese phones;

(b) whether a Parliamentary Committee has recommended to fast track network connectivity in this area to help the Jawans to reap its benefits;

(c) if so, the status thereof;

(d) the other border areas in the country where the above network facilities are not available; and

(e) the action plan of Government to fast-track the system from security point of view?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) At present, the mobile coverage is not available at Nathu La Pass. The last point where little mobile coverage is available is TSOMGO LAKE (also known as Changu Lake) which is approx 10 Km before Nathu La.

(b) and (c) Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology visited and reeommended for mobile service at Thegu which is near Nathu La. BSNL plans to commission Mobile Base Transceiver station (BTS) at Thegu in 2012-13.

(d) The districts near International Borders including Pakistan, China, Myanmar, and Bhutan Borders are covered, in general, by one or the other mobile service providers. However, in some rural/remote areas the provisioning of telecom services is at lower side due to difficult terrain, poor roads and power supply.

(e) Prior to July 2008, No service zone of 500 Meters width along the International border within Indian territory for wireless/mobile service was there. Further, deployment of Cell site(s)/Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs)/Radio transmitters in the buffer zone of 10 Km. width in certain areas of Jammu and Kashmir was also barred. To address the issue of telecom connectivity in the border areas, Department of Telecom (DoT) *vide* its letter dated 11-07-2008 has permitted deployment of Cell site(s)/Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs)/Radio transmitters in the buffer zone of 10 Km width and now the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) have to ensure that their radio signal(s) fade out or become unusable within a reasonable distance across such borders.