

of 1.6 Watt/Kg averaged over a mass of 1 gram tissue with effect from 1st September, 2012.

- (iii) However, the mobile handsets with existing designs, which are compliant with 2.0 Watt/Kg averaged over a mass of 10 gram tissue, may continue to co-exist upto 31st August, 2013.
- (iv) From 1st September, 2013, only the mobile handsets with revised SAR value of 1.6 Watt/Kg are permitted to be manufactured or imported in India for domestic market.

Relief for BSNL and MTNL from onetime fee for spectrum

2384. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL and MTNL have written to the Ministry for providing them relief from the one-time fee on telecom operators holding spectrum beyond the cap fixed by the regulator; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the stand of Government on the relief to MTNL and BSNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has received requests from BSNL and MTNL for providing them relief from one time fee on spectrum beyond the cap fixed by the Government. The matter was placed before the Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) on "vacation of spectrum and auction of 3G spectrum and to look into the grant of license and allocation of spectrum in 2G band in 22 service areas". The EGoM, in its meeting held on 18.10.2012, has directed that the proposal for financial support to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) in this matter be placed before the Cabinet.

Mobile services for remote rural areas of Uttarakhand

†2385. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether Government would provide the people of remote rural areas of Uttarakhand with good quality mobile services;
- (b) if so, whether Government would give licences to the private players so as to put Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in competition; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) Some complaints have been received from the mobile subscribers of BSNL in rural/remote areas of Uttarakhand regarding Quality of Service (QoS). However, BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited) is in general, meeting the QoS parameters prescribed by TRAI (Telecom Regulatory Authority of India). In addition to BSNL, 10 private telecom operators are also providing telecom services in Uttarakhand.

Revenue of post offices

2386. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that revenue of post offices, across the country, is decreasing day by day;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken by Government to mitigate this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. (SHRIMATI) KRUPARANI KILLI): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Revenue from Post Offices across the country for the last three years are as under:

	(Rs. in crores)			
Revenue Heads	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (Upto Oct., 2012)
Postal Operations/ SBCC	6266.70	6962.33	7910.52	5147.03*

*SBCC figures have been calculated notionally.