

Subsidiary companies of BSNL

47. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL is considering to set up two separate subsidiary companies for tower related infrastructure, land bank and other real estate assets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the BSNL has received a recommendation in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. (SHRIMATI) KRUPARANI KILLI): (a) and (b) BSNL has floated an Expression of Interest (EOI) for appointment of consultant to advise and assist it in setting up a separate subsidiary company for tower related infrastructure. However, presently, there is no proposal under consideration of BSNL for setting up of separate subsidiary company for land bank and other real estate.

(c) and (d) Government had set up a Committee in January 2010 under Shri Sam Pitroda to review the functioning of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). The recommendations of the Committee for creating separate subsidiary companies on tower infrastructure and land bank are as follows:

- (i) To create a separate subsidiary company for tower related infrastructure to aggressively market to other public and private sector customers and unlock the whole/substantial potential value through strategic stake sale, M&A or separate IPO. Committee also recommended exploring possibilities of monetizing other such subsystems e.g. interconnect operations.
- (ii) To create a separate subsidiary to hold undeveloped land bank and other real estate assets and a large number of unutilized staff quarter, etc. Committee further recommended to monetize the value of this subsidiary by collaborating with a reputed and experienced real estate related company in a transparent manner.

Fraudulent practices by e-commerce companies

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

(a) whether a large number of e-commerce companies are operating in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years and the current year;

(c) whether it has come to the knowledge of Government that some e-commerce companies are resorting to fraud, cheating, scams and false advertisements; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to protect citizens from such fraudulent companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) As per the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), the relevant information is being called for from the field offices and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Expansion and improvement of telecommunication services

†49. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the physical and financial targets set and achieved for expansion and improvement of telecommunication services in the country including Madhya Pradesh during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the action taken by Government on those areas where set targets could not be achieved during the said period;

(c) the future strategy of Government for expansion and improvement of telecom services in the country; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) The details, of the physical and financial targets set and achieved for expansion and improvement of telecommunication services in the country during the Eleventh Five Year Plan as per Eleventh Plan document of the Planning Commission, are as given below:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.