

(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 (e) 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.

Targets	Achievements
To reach a telecom subscriber base of 600 million.	Target has been achieved. Total number of telephone connections (up to March, 2012): 951.34 million (wireless: 919.17 million and wireline: 32.17 million). State-wise, including Madhya Pradesh and year-wise achievement is enclosed at Annexure. [See Appendix 228 Annexure No. 2]
To provide 100 million rural telephone connections by 2010 and reach 200 million connections by 2012, that is, achieve a rural tele-density of 25 per cent	Target has been achieved. A total of 200.81 million rural connections were provided by 2010. The number of rural connections and rural teledensity at the close March, 2012 was 330.82 million and 39.26 per cent respectively.
To provide a telephone connection on demand across the country at an affordable price as envisaged in the Broadband Policy, 2004.	Target achieved
To provide a broadband connection on demand across the country by 2012	Programme has been initiated. Total number of broadband connections up to March, 2012 was 13.81 million
To facilitate introduction of mobile TV	Introduced on an experimental basis in Mumbai and Delhi
To make India a hub for telecom equipment manufacturing by facilitating establishment of telecom-specific Special Economic Zones (SEZs).	During Eleventh Plan the capital investment in the telecom sector is around Rs. 830,000 crore. Further Nokia, Motorola, Flextronics and Foxconn have set up SEZ units in the country for manufacturing mobile handsets.
Establishing Telecom Centres of Excellence (TCoEs) in premier educational institutions and other reputed organizations in the country in the PPP mode.	Under Telecom Development and Investment Promotion (TDIP), 7 TCoEs have been set up in the Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode in various areas of the telecom sector.

(c) and (d) With a vision to provide secure, reliable, affordable and high quality converged telecommunication services anytime, anywhere for an accelerated inclusive socio-economic development, National Telecom Policy-2012 (NTP-12) has been approved by the Government. The NTP-12 contains the objectives and strategies to achieve this vision.

Appointments in BSNL from private sector

50. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BSNL is considering to appoint best professionals from the private sector at market rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that BSNL is also considering to appoint an eminent person from the private sector as Chairman of BSNL; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. (SHRIMATI) KRUPARANI KILLI): (a) to (d) Presently, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is not considering to appoint professionals from the private sector at market rates. Further, there is at present no proposal under consideration to appoint any eminent person from private sector as Chairman of BSNL.

Revenue of BSNL

51. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to boost the revenue of BSNL by leveraging its real estate bank, renting out of its telecom towers and fiber optics capacity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that BSNL has been witnessing steady decline in its business; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?