

(b) whether Indian Data Centres have data security arrangement, if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has mandated any standards for Data Security and Data Capacity creation in the country, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Yes, Sir. There are three National Data Centres set up by National Informatics Centres(NIC) at Delhi, Hyderabad and Pune and DeitY has set up State Data Centre(SDC) in each capital Head Quarter of the State / Union Territory (UT) under the SDC Scheme of National e-Governance Plan(NeGP). 22 SDCs are already operational. All these Data centres have been designed on internationally defined Tier standards.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Data Centres have multi-layer security architecture and have been designed using state of art technologies, such as, Network Firewall, Intrusion Prevention System, application Firewall, antivirus, Security and Patch Management Solutions, ISO 27001 etc., to secure the servers and applications. Technology based security is coupled with security practices, such as, Application Security Audit, Application Source Code Scanning, Black Box Scanning and Vulnerability Assessment.

Round the clock monitoring of the logs and events generated by the systems is carried out to find out unauthorized./ abnormal activities of the systems. NIC is following OWASP (Open Web Application Security Project) standards for Application Security.

#### **Post offices for women**

†2228. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the details of purpose and benefits likely to be accrued from post offices for women on the lines of Banks for women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHRIMATI KRUPARANI KILLI): The objective for opening of all women post offices in the country is to lay focus on women's empowerment and to achieve Departments objectives and mission to sustain its position as the largest postal network in the world. It is an effort to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

integrate gender equality and women's empowerment for good governance by ensuring that women employees working at various levels in the Department have a real voice in the decision making of the Department as well as have a role in the management of post offices in the country. The all women post offices are the post office where all employees are women and they have been given the responsibility of managing the events of the post offices. This is done with a view to promote leadership and managerial qualities in women employees of the Department. These post offices are opened in major cities and at present 34 all women post offices are functioning in the country. These post offices are functioning within the postal network of the Department in the country and not a separate set up of post offices.

Besides this, from our customers' perspective, Post Offices offer products and services like small savings, postal life insurance and other mail related products which are used by the common man. All Women Post Office offers a secured environment to our woman customers from all strata of society to transact postal business with a level of comfort and familiarity with women employees of the Department.

#### **Pendency of applications for Internet Service Provider Licence**

†2229. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of applications for obtaining Internet Service Provider licence of various categories are pending; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Applications for grant of Internet Service Licences from Indian Registered Companies were being received and processed on a continuous basis. Letters of Intent for grant of Internet Service Licences were issued to the companies, who met the eligibility criteria and had submitted the requisite documents.

However, after announcement of Unified Licence (UL) guidelines by the Government in August 2013, it has been decided that henceforth no other licence for any of the services covered under UL shall be issued. Since Internet Services are covered under UL, the same are not being issued henceforth.

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