

Cooperation with China in Information Technology

3123. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and China has agreed to cooperate on Information Technology, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Chinese have given an assurance that Chinese state run companies would not block Indian IT companies and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH] : (a) and (b) India and China have agreed to enhance cooperation in Information Technology (IT) sector. A Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Information and Communications Technology was signed between the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of the People's Republic of China at the 3rd India-China Strategic Economic Dialogue held in Beijing on March 18, 2014 with the objective to tap the strong complementarities between the two countries and create a favourable environment for common development in the IT sector

Steps taken to enhance performance of PSEs

3124. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to lack of inter-se Public Sector Enterprise (PSE) coordination, the performance of Public Sector Enterprises are declining; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by Government to enhance the performance of the Public Sector Enterprises?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, the Government has taken a number of steps to enhance the performance of CPSEs which include (i) Introduction of Maharatna, Navratna and Miniratna schemes envisaging delegation of financial and operational powers to the Boards of CPSEs, (ii) thrust on performance improvement through the Memorandum of Understanding mechanism, (iii) professionalization of Boards of CPSEs, (iv) listing of CPSEs, etc.

New products manufactured by BHEL

†3125. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), which manufactures heavy electrical equipments in the country, is stressing on the development of new technology and products;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.