

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY), Ministry of Communications and IT, has notified “Electronics and IT Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012” mandating compliance of electronic and IT products - including mobile phone sets - to Indian Safety Standards indicated in the Gazette notification.

These Standards have been notified because electronics and IT products are of strategic importance in internal security and defence, the deployment of electronics in domains such as telecom, power, railways, civil aviation etc. can have serious consequences of disruption in service. This order also fulfils the objective of protection of human health and safety. Additionally, one of the objectives of National Policy on Electronics, 2012 is to create an institutional mechanism for developing and mandating standards and certification of electronic products and services to strengthen Quality Assessment infrastructure nationwide.

Bureau of Energy Efficiency had launched voluntary labeling program for laptops, notebooks and office equipments. However, there are no mandatory standards for mobile and other electronic items.

During the first phase of “Electronics and IT Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012” seven awareness programmes and three advertisements in print media were released during 2012 - 13. Now during the second phase also advertisements are in the process of being released in the print media and three awareness programmes have been planned for 2014 - 15.

BIS, through advertisements, is making efforts to make public aware to buy registered electronic products notified under “Electronics and IT Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012”.

BSNL towers

2253. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of BSNL towers installed in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, till date;

(b) the number of proposals pending in the Ministry for installing BSNL towers in these two States; and

- (c) the steps taken by Government to execute the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has installed 5606 number of BTSs y (Base Transceiver Stations) in Andhra Pradesh and 4654 number of BTSs in Telangana.

(b) and (c) No such proposal is pending in the Ministry. However, BSNL has planned 2078 number of BTS in Andhra Pradesh and 1693 number of BTSs in Telangana under its Phase VII GSM Expansion project. Out of these 2063 BTSs in Andhra Pradesh and 1576 number of BTSs in Telangana have been commissioned.

Government has assigned the work of providing mobile connectivity in 2199 identified locations in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas through BSNL at an estimated cost of ₹ 3567.58 crores. Out of these, 43 BTSs in Andhra Pradesh and 184 BTSs in Telangana have been planned.

Procurement of crops

†2254. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government agencies procure Kharif crops from the farmers through crop procurement centres; and
- (b) if so, the way above centres procure crops from flood affected areas or crops affected by diseases;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Kharif crops are procured by Government agencies through procurement centres from farmers as per Government specifications and also from the flood affected areas or crops affected by disease as per relaxed specifications, if decided by the Government.

Inferior quality of packaged drinking water

2255. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of irregularities and complaints regarding inferior quality of packaged drinking water have been registered in the last three years, if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.