

service and surveys are being published for the information of stakeholders. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has also been imposing financial disincentive on service providers for failure to comply with the quality of service benchmarks.

Licence for wireless operations in Lakshadweep

535. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Administration of Lakshadweep had sought spectrum and licence for wireless operations;
- (b) if so, whether spectrum facility and licence for wireless operations have been granted to Administration of Lakshadweep;
- (c) when was spectrum applied for, spectrum facility granted and wireless operations started;
- (d) whether there was any dispute related to the fees to be paid or any charges to be levied; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the details of concerned rules?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) Administration of Lakshadweep had requested for frequency authorisation to operate radar transponder. Based on their request, Decision letter (DL) to grant Wireless Telegraphy (W/T) Licence was issued to them, indicating frequency spots, payable spectrum charges, comprising of Licence fee and Royalty and to provide copy of Siting clearance for the fixed station, copy of Invoice of equipment etc. for grant of Wireless Operating License (WOL).

(d) and (e) Administration of Lakshadweep requested for waiver of spectrum charges. They were informed that all wireless users were required to pay spectrum charges. The spectrum charges are levied as per Orders issued by the Government from time-to-time.

Wi-Fi services in 2500 cities and towns

536. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to roll out free high-speed Wi-Fi connectivity in 2500 cities and towns across the country over three years;

(b) if so, whether the aforesaid plan will be implemented by Government owned BSNL and MTNL;

(c) whether BSNL and MTNL are suffering heavy losses;

(d) if so, whether these companies will be able to provide free access of Wi-Fi connectivity to the consumers; and

(e) if not, the steps taken by Government to make these companies profitable?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) No Sir, However the Department of Telecommunications has been working on the agenda set by the Government for providing Wi-Fi connectivity to tourist spots and public areas in cities with a population of more than 1 million. Further Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is in process of setting up Wi-Fi hotspot on PAN India basis (except Delhi & Mumbai) through revenue share model.

(c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has reported the losses during year 2011-12 of ₹ 8850.70(in crores), year 2012-13 of 7884.44(in crores) and in year 2013-14 of ₹ 7019.76 (in crores). Further Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has reported the losses during year 2011-12 of ₹ 4109.79(in crores), year 2012-13 of ₹ 5321.12 and it has profit in year 2013-14 of ₹ 7825.13 (in crores)

(d) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is in process of setting up Wi-Fi hotspot on PAN India basis (except Delhi & Mumbai) through revenue share model.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d).

Policy to censor content on internet

537. SHRI AVINASH PANDE : Will the Minister of Communications and Information Technology be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is formulating a policy to censor content on the Internet;

(b) if so, the kind of content Government is seeking to filter and/or block for access on the Internet; and

(c) the mechanism proposed to be used therefor?