

(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?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal with the Government to formulate the policy to censor the content on the Internet. However, the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules 2011 under Section 79 of the Information Technology Act requires that the Intermediaries shall observe due diligence while discharging their duties and shall inform the users of Computer resources not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, update or share any information that is harmful, objectionable, affect minors and unlawful in any way.

An Advisory was issued on August 17, 2012 under Section 79 of Information Technology Act 2000 and Rules therein to all intermediaries asking them to take necessary action to disable inflammatory and hateful content hosted on their website on priority basis. Government is in regular dialog with intermediaries including social networking sites for effective disablement of such objectionable content.

As per section 69A of the IT Act 2000 and the rules published there in, Government takes action, whenever sites/ URL pages with objectionable contents infringing any Law of the country are brought to its notice by the law enforcement agencies or when Court issues direction to block any URL of websites.

Cyber Regulation Advisory Committee (CRAC) set up under Information Technology Act 2000, held consultations with stakeholders, industry associations and other experts in meeting to find solution for preventing availability of objectionable content on Internet. Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI), an association of content providers, has been mandated to prepare list of objectionable sites particularly pornographic web sites available in Internet. The identified sites will then be considered for disabling. Further Government has proposed providing free Software filters to general public to filter pornography sites on the Internet.

Steps to equip DOT for responding to technological advancements

538. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government is taking to equip the DoT with the capacity to respond to Digital India objectives and fast changing disruptive nature of technological advancements; and

(b) whether Government believes that the DoT must play a significant role in creating changes to the digital environment, instead of being only a licence issuing