

view of this, all the mobile operators including MTNL have at least one tariff plan where incoming calls are free in national roaming where the subscriber is expected to pay fixed charges for availing this facility.

**Pension to retired employees**

1349. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MTNL employees retired prior to 2007 have been promised pension at the same rate as had been sanctioned to employees retired post 2007 as per the recommendations of the Second Pay Revision Committee of Central Public Sector Enterprises;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time-frame within which the arrears would be paid to such ailing retired employees, if not, already paid, to address their long-standing grievances?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The recommendations of Second Pay Revision Committee of Central Public Sector Enterprises were regarding pay revision of serving employees with effect from 1.01.2007 and did not relate to pension revision of retired employees of Central Public Sector Enterprises including MTNL. However, Pension rate as provided in CCS Pension Rule 1972 is applicable uniformly to retirees of Pre and Post 2007 and is given on their last pay drawn at the time of their retirement.

(c) It has been decided by the Government in 2014 that payment of pensionary benefits to all categories of the erstwhile employees of the Government (Group A, B, C and D) absorbed in MTNL who have opted for pension on combined service will be made by the Government in the same manner as in BSNL with effect from 01.10.2000. Accordingly action has been initiated. As regards time-frame, payment of pension including arrears, if any, is a continuous and ongoing process.

**Telecom equipment sourcing and testing**

1350. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that unfettered supplies of telecom equipments