

A pilot lab has already been established at Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru to develop security standards, test processes and test tools for telecom equipment testing and security certification. It is envisaged to upscale this lab to full-fledged lab. The developments of systems, processes, security standards, test procedures, test tools, etc., for telecom network elements which are large in numbers, is a time taking exercise. Also understanding security standards, protocols, etc., is a complex and voluminous task. Further, there are no readily available standards and processes for security testing of telecom equipment as the issue of establishing security standards for telecom equipment has been realized only recently by international standard making bodies like 3GPP.

The Government has already taken a decision to set up Telecom Testing and Security Certification Centre to develop systems, processes, adopt/develop security standards, test tools, etc., for telecom equipment security testing and certification. Based on these standards, processes and tools, the Centre would accredit the test labs for security testing and certification of telecom equipment used by various Telecom Service Providers. Such test labs can be set up/established under private or public or joint venture entity.

Withdrawal of plan to provide Wi-Fi hotspots

1351. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going back from its plan to set up Wi-Fi hotspots in 25 cities all over the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has identified 153 locations in 30 cities till June 2015 for providing wi-fi services. BSNL has already launched public wi-fi hotspots at tourist spots such as Taj Mahal (Agra), Sarnath, Assi Ghat (Varanasi), Jagannath Temple (Puri), Konark Temple (Puri), Khajuraho Temple (Khajuraho), Thanjavur-Brihadeeswara Temple (Thanjavur), Trimbakeshwar Temple (Nasik) and Hussain Sagar lake and Charminar (Hyderabad).

(b) Does not arise in the view of above.

Import of wheat

†1352. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to import wheat on a large scale despite adequate availability of wheat in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.