

Internet connectivity in moving trains

370. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that internet connectivity in moving trains is pathetic in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Ministry to improve internet connectivity in moving trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Internet connectivity in moving trains in the country is presently available through telecom mobile network which varies along the railway route.

In addition to above, internet facility has been introduced on one train *i.e.* 12301/12302 New Delhi-Howrah-New Delhi as pilot project through satellite communication, which has limitation of bandwidth at present.

(b) The internet connectivity will progressively improve with the increased roll-out of 4G services by various telecom service providers in the country. Further, Ministry of Railways is also exploring various technologies for a cost effective solution to provide internet in moving trains.

Upward revision in rates of postal products

371. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in an attempt to prune annual revenue deficit, the Department of Posts has proposed a slew of steps that could net an additional ₹ 1000 crore in earnings through an upward revision in rates of several postal products;

(b) whether a similar revision was made in 2001-02, and expenses have risen by 262 per cent since the last revision;

(c) the extent of increase in rates of postal products; and

(d) whether India Posts has benefited from boom in e-commerce deliveries of COD consignments from country's top online sellers by sprucing up its parcel delivery services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The attempts to prune revenue deficit is an ongoing exercise and Department of Posts has been making continuous efforts