

websites are hosted on NICNET. The total number of websites hosted on NICNET that have been defaced since 2014 is 221. The details are as under:—

Year	websites
2014	57
2015	41
2016	81
2017 till date	42
TOTAL	221

(b) National Informatics Centre (NIC), which provides IT/E-Governance related services to Government departments, protects the cyber resources from possible compromises through a layered security approach using secure and foolproof practices, procedures and technologies. Also, relevant advisories are circulated among the NICNET users for taking precautionary measures from time-to-time.

(c) NIC has deployed state-of-the-art security solutions including firewalls, intrusion prevention systems, anti-virus solution. Additionally, periodic security audits of resources are performed followed by subsequent hardenings. These are complemented by round-the-clock monitoring of security events and remedial measures are carried out for solving the problems subsequently.

Cyber Security is a continuous process and the protection elements are updated on a regular basis. A 24x7 security monitoring centre is in place at NIC, for detecting and responding to security incidents, including NIC-CERT.

NIC follows the instructions given by MeitY/other security agencies from time-to-time.

Ghost beneficiaries under Aadhaar's Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme

2334. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has identified ghost beneficiaries under Aadhaar's Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme in the previous year, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the details of losses reported, if any, due to ghost beneficiaries of social welfare schemes such as pensions, LPG, scholarships, etc., State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Ministry to eradicate/prevent ghost beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Direct

Benefit Transfer (DBT) is a major reform initiative where benefits, in cash or in kind, are delivered directly to accurately identified beneficiaries using Aadhaar as an identifier, thereby eliminating ghost beneficiaries. It envisages simpler flow of funds and information using Information and Communication Technology (ICT), achieving efficiency and inclusion in the delivery processes, leading to greater accountability and transparency in the system. As on 31st March, 2017, 140 schemes of 51 Ministries/ Departments are on DBT platform. Ministries/Departments have estimated and reported savings of ₹ 57,029 crore upto FY 2016-17 due to DBT implementation of schemes in view of elimination of ghost beneficiaries etc. in these schemes. Details of estimated savings accrued are attached as Statement-I (*See below*). State-wise list of blocked customers in PAHAL scheme is given in the Statement-II (*See below*). A statement showing the details of deleted Ration Cards (State-wise) in respect of Public Distribution System (PDS) is given in the Statement-III (*See below*).

(c) For the schemes being implemented in DBT mode, the beneficiary databases are seeded with validated Aadhaar number of the beneficiary, thus eliminating ghost beneficiaries and transfer of benefits directly to the bank account of the beneficiary by electronics means.

Statement-I

Details of estimated savings accrued Saving Reported due to DBT

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Ministry/Department	Scheme	Reported Saving Upto 2016-17
1.	Petroleum and Natural Gas	PAHAL	29,769
2.	Food and Public Distribution	PDS	14,000
3.	Rural Development	MGNREGS	11,741
4.	Others	NSAP	399
		Others	1,120
TOTAL			57,029

Statement-II

Details of State-wise Blocked Consumers during FY 2016-17 under PAHAL Scheme

State /UT	Blocked Customer
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	24,268
Andhra Pradesh	28,78,817
Arunachal Pradesh	79,688

State /UT	Blocked Customer
Assam	10,02,220
Bihar	10,38,408
Chandigarh	1,56,274
Chhattisgarh	4,61,124
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	7,357
Daman and Diu	11,091
Delhi	17,07,700
Goa	1,35,762
Gujarat	18,85,671
Haryana	10,68,110
Himachal Pradesh	6,74,748
Jammu and Kashmir	7,57,807
Jharkhand	4,65,749
Karnataka	15,20,208
Kerala	10,98,049
Lakshadweep	864
Madhya Pradesh	17,38,193
Maharashtra	33,57,773
Manipur	1,12,140
Meghalaya	65,658
Mizoram	70,168
Nagaland	76,386
Odisha	6,89,750
Puducherry	54,866
Punjab	19,25,664
Rajasthan	11,24,419
Sikkim	60,162
Tamil Nadu	21,67,180
Telangana	20,23,845
Tripura	1,10,419

State /UT	Blocked Customer
Uttar Pradesh	48,13,109
Uttarakhand	7,47,342
West Bengal	12,35,618
TOTAL	3,53,46,607

Statement-III

Updated Statement of Deleted Ration Cards due to detection of Ghost/fraudulent/ineligible/migration/deaths, etc. during the process of digitization, de-duplication, Aadhaar seeding in run-up/implementation of NFSA (2013-2017)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Number of deleted ration cards
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	37
2.	Andhra Pradesh	11,50,212
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	14,911
4.	Assam	1,11,182
5.	Bihar	41,369
6.	Chhattisgarh	11,66,000
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	549
8.	Daman and Diu	363
9.	Delhi	30,096
10.	Goa	1,57,461
11.	Gujarat	1,49,092
12.	Haryana	1,63,013
13.	Himachal Pradesh	3,260
14.	Jharkhand	4,53,958
15.	Karnataka	31,48,117
16.	Lakshadweep	1,390
17.	Madhya Pradesh	4,18,509
18.	Maharashtra	21,62,391
19.	Mizoram	1,503
20.	Odisha	6,61,372

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Number of deleted ration cards
21.	Puducherry	95,393
22.	Punjab	1,01,249
23.	Rajasthan	13,23,406
24.	Sikkim	12,569
25.	Tamil Nadu	4,22,746
26.	Telangana	20,97,564
27.	Tripura	1,76,986
28.	Uttar Pradesh	41,70,894
29.	West Bengal	66,13,961
TOTAL		2,48,49,553

Cartelisation by Telcos

2335. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Telcos have resorted to cartelisation to take on Reliance Jio, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Reliance Jio has complained to TRAI in this regard, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to penalise Telcos against cartelisation, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) While raising the issue of delay/denial in provisioning/augmentation of Point of Interconnections (PoIs), allegations have been made by the new entrant (M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited) against the existing incumbent operators (M/s Bharti Airtel Limited, M/s Idea Cellular Limited and M/s Vodafone India Limited) in respect of anti-competitive practices including cartelization.

As per the provisions of section 11 (1) (b) (ii), (iii), (vi) and (vii) of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act, 1997, the matter of interconnection between two telecom networks is under the purview of TRAI.

TRAI has examined the issue raised by the new entrant and submitted its recommendation dated 21.10.2016 to the Government. The said recommendations were examined by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and referred back