

of the country. The company has also contributed in setting of Broadband network equipments in about 750 Gram Panchayats in Karnataka State during 2017 as part of BharatNet Phase I project, which aims to connect rural citizens through fiber based broadband network. With the upgradation of infrastructure, the Bangalore plant of ITI has improved its order book position to appx. ₹ 136 Cr. in the current financial year and, with the company's ambitious plans for growth, it expects much higher turnover in the coming years. This will result into higher contribution to the local region in terms of supplies, employment generation as well contribution to exchequer of Central and State Governments in terms of taxes.

As a result of all the above investments and the new projects taken up for implementation, ITI Bangalore, Karnataka, has turned around - which is a significant milestone achieved. Also, ITI, as a whole, is expected to turn around in next financial year.

MoP for appointment of judges

*89. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sent any response or consent to the revised Memorandum of Procedure (MoP), which lays down procedure for appointment of Judges in higher judiciary, as finalized by the Collegium of the Supreme Court and sent to the Ministry by the Chief Justice of India in March, 2017; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) and (b) The Supreme Court of India *vide* order dated 16.12.2015 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 13 of 2015 for improvement in the "Collegium System", directed the Government to finalize the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) by supplementing it in consultation with the Supreme Court Collegium taking into consideration factors such as eligibility criteria, transparency, establishment of Secretariat, and mechanism to deal with complaints.

The Government of India after due deliberations, proposed changes in the existing MoP and the draft MoP's were sent to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India *vide* letter dated 22.03.2016. The response of the Chief Justice of India thereon was received on 25.05.2016 and 01.07.2016. The views of the Government were conveyed to the Chief Justice of India on 03.08.2016. The inputs on the MoP of the Supreme Court Collegium was received from Chief Justice of India *vide* letter dated 13.03.2017.

Meanwhile, in another judgment dated 4.7.2017 of Supreme Court in a “*suo moto*” contempt proceeding against a Judge of the Calcutta High Court, the Supreme Court has underlined the need to revisit the process of selection and appointment of Judges to the Constitutional Courts. The Government of India has conveyed the need to make improvement on the draft MoP to the Secretary General of the Supreme Court *vide* letter dated 11.07.2017.

TRAI meeting with telecom service providers

*90. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) held meeting with telecom service providers recently to discuss issues that would be taken up during the year;

(b) if so, the deliberations made in the said meeting;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the telecom service providers put forward many suggestions to be implemented in 2018; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. An Interactive Meeting was held with the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) on 23rd January, 2018 to elicit ideas/suggestions for incorporation/formulation of areas/topics on which public consultation may be carried out or the studies/surveys may be undertaken during the year 2018.

Following issues were discussed during the meeting with TSPs:-

- (i) Provision of telecom services – infrastructure related issues
 - (ii) Consultation paper on Over-The Top (OTT)
 - (iii) Telecom as a critical infrastructure financial viability issues
 - (iv) Review of licensing framework– one nation one license
 - (v) National telecom numbering plan
 - (vi) Laying of undersea cable and its repair
 - (vii) Multiple audits in telecom sector
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