

Charges, interest subvention, etc. This is our response. They also need to be more competitive, more professional and need to invest more as far as reinforcing the mobile system in the country is concerned.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Sir, my second supplementary is this. Will the Government come forward to encourage BSNL to provide 4G services by slashing Spectrum Usage Charges?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, as far as BSNL is concerned, BSNL allotment of spectrum is not done through auction because a view is taken. As BSNL is a PSU, therefore, fair auction may be impacted because the Government body is there. So, regarding 4G etc., we are exploring option for the BSNL. The Spectrum Usage Charges, I have already explained in my answer, we have already given benefits. For instance, a one time opportunity to opt for a higher number of sixteen instalments, which many of them have availed. On the Spectrum Usage Charges also, we have given them indulgences. These kinds of indulgence and help to them, the Department keeps on giving them from time-to-time depending upon the circumstances and the need for it.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Sir, my direct question, as my time is only for one minute: Will 700 Megahertz of frequency be given to BSNL? Will the Letter of Comfort be given to BSNL for procuring loan from the PSU banks?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, the hon. Member is a great well wisher of BSNL, I know, for many years. I am doing my best. As regards the specific query is concerned, let me take a call in consultation with due process.

Inputs from Foreign Service Institute

*279. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the principal considerations of foreign policy which guides relationship with the United States and China;

(b) whether the Foreign Service Institute (FSI), New Delhi provides any inputs in forging some facets of India's Foreign policy, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is a regular institutional network to tackle problems of policy planning and research in foreign affairs and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

India's relations with the U.S. are based on shared democratic values and increasing convergence of interests on bilateral, regional and global issues. The United States is India's largest trading partner (goods and services combined), a significant source of FDI, an important supplier of defence equipment and technology, and is home to a vibrant and flourishing Indian Diaspora that has played a significant role in strengthening the ties between the two countries. Both nations are also working together to promote global peace, security, and prosperity, including in the Indo-Pacific region that the two countries share.

With regard to our relationship with China, the two sides forged a Closer Development Partnership in 2014 and agreed to work towards strengthening it for mutual benefit. In our multifaceted engagement with China, in areas where we have commonality of views, engagement has expanded and upgraded in recent years. Issues where there are differences are being handled through dialogue to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution based on mutual respect and sensitivity to each other's interests, concerns and aspirations. Both sides agree that progress in bilateral relations should be guided by the consensus reached between their leaders that at a time of global uncertainty, India-China relations are a factor of stability, and that the two countries must not allow their differences to become disputes.

The Foreign Service Institute (FSI) contributes to India's Foreign Policy by way of cooperation with various countries in the field of training. More than 3000 foreign diplomats from over 180 countries (including USA and China) have availed of training courses at FSI. Last year, FSI organised a Joint India-China Training Programme for diplomats from Afghanistan.

Yes, the Policy Planning and Research (PP&R) Division of the Ministry, along with its network of autonomous bodies (the Indian Council of World Affairs and the Research and Information Systems), think tanks and academic collaborations provide a well-organized mechanism for the purpose of policy planning and research in foreign affairs. The PP&R Division is the nodal division of the Ministry which undertakes a continuous analysis of our principal foreign policy objectives, as well as providing research-based perspectives to the Ministry on various regional and global developments. The Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) is an autonomous body under the Ministry of External Affairs. The mandated objectives of the ICWA include the promotion of the study of Indian foreign policy and international affairs with an objective to develop a body of informed opinion on the subject as well as

research on political economic, and security developments in various parts of the world. The Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) is an autonomous body under the Ministry of External Affairs constituted as a society under the Registrar of Societies. The research work of RIS focuses on issues pertaining to Global economic Governance and Cooperation; Trade, Investment and Economic Cooperation: Trade Facilitation, Connectivity and Regional Cooperation; and New Technologies and Development Issues.

SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Sir, India has imposed retaliatory tariffs on about 28 U.S. products recently. India has also implemented a wide array of trade barriers that are...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Manish Gupta, Question Hour is over. हमारी कोशिश होती है कि अधिक से अधिक सवाल हों, इसलिए समय का ध्यान माननीय सदस्य और मंत्रीगण रखें। मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि, today was the first time that Dr. Jaishankar, the External Affairs Minister, got a chance to answer in Parliament and he did it extremely well.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

KVs in Chhattisgarh

†*280. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several Kendriya Vidyalayas in Chhattisgarh do not have their own buildings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether necessary arrangement for conducting classes for higher education are not being made due to the shortage of buildings and place for the construction of laboratories; and

(d) if so, by when Government proposes to arrange buildings for these schools?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Out of 35 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) in the State of Chhattisgarh, there are 9 KVs running without their own buildings. The details of these 9 KVs are as under:—

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.