

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 30
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

TELE-DENSITY

†*30. SHRI BHISMA SHANKER *ALIAS* KUSHAL TIWARI:
SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the tele-density in some States is much less than the national teledensity;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, Statewise alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the tele-density in the country is much less than the global teledensity;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase the tele-density in the country, particularly in the rural areas in the Twelfth Five Year Plan?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

- (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Contd.... 2/-

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 30 FOR 14TH MARCH, 2012 REGARDING “TELE-DENSITY”

- (a) & (b) The service area-wise details of rural, urban and overall tele-density in the country for the last three years and current year (as on 31.01.2012) are given in the Annexure. The main reasons for lower tele-density in some of the States compared to the national tele-density are low per capita income, poor literacy rate, poor availability of infrastructure viz. power and road, particularly in rural areas, socio-economic status of rural population etc.
- (c) & (d) The comparative position of fixed and mobile phones’ tele-density of the country vis-a-vis the estimated global tele-density as per International Telecommunications Union (ITU), at the end of December 2011 is as under:

Type of telephone	Tele-density	
	India	World
Fixed Telephones	2.71 %	16
Mobile Telephones	74.15 %	86

- (e) The following steps are taken / being taken by Government to increase the tele-density in the country:
1. Various schemes are being implemented with financial support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for providing access to telecom services to people in the rural and remote areas at affordable and reasonable prices. These schemes are contributing in increase of rural tele-density which inter-alia, include the following:
 - (i) As on 31.01.2012, 5,80,124 villages i.e. 97.73% of the Census 2001 inhabited revenue villages have been covered with Village Public Telephones (VPTs).
 - (ii) As on 31.01.2012, 1,84,775 VPTs, out of a total number of 1,85,121 VPTs earlier working on Multi Access Radio Relay (MARR) technology and installed before 01.04.2002, have been replaced with reliable technologies.
 - (iii) A scheme was launched by USO Fund to provide subsidy support for setting up and managing 7353 number of infrastructure sites/ towers in 500 districts spread over 27 states, for provision of mobile services in the specified rural and remote areas, where there was no existing fixed wireless or mobile coverage. As on 31.01.2012, 7296 towers have been set up under this scheme. The infrastructure so created is being shared by three service providers for provision of mobile services. As on 31.01.2012, 15,851 Base Transceiver Stations have been commissioned by Service Providers and mobile services are being provided.
 2. To meet the demand of wire line telephones in rural areas, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is now laying cable up to 5 Kms. of exchange against the earlier standard of 2.5 Kms. based on demand and techno-commercial consideration.
 3. BSNL has deployed Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) network in rural areas to meet the demand of scattered and far-flung rural areas where connection of telephone is not techno-commercially feasible on landlines.
 4. BSNL has deployed its mobile network on national and State highways, important towns and pilgrim centers.

The Twelfth Five Year Plan has not been approved so far.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 28
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

VIOLATION OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE OBLIGATIONS

†*28. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the services of some of the private telecom companies have been suspended in certain telecom circles for violation of the conditions of the Universal Service Obligation Fund agreement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, companywise;
- (c) whether the Government has imposed penalties on erring companies; and
- (d) if so, the details of penalty imposed and recovery made from them, companywise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Contd.... 2/-

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 28 FOR 14TH MARCH, 2012 REGARDING “VIOLATION OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE OBLIGATIONS”

(a) & (b) Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF)/Government have not suspended the services of private telecom companies for violation of the conditions of the USOF agreement. However, M/s Reliance Communications Limited (RCL) and M/s Reliance Telecom Limited (RTL) switched off their mobile Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) at 1191 and 228 USOF supported sites respectively causing suspension/interruption of mobile services in certain areas during Nov 2010 to Feb 2011. The details are given in Annexure.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) A financial penalty of Rs.4,63,22,000 has been imposed on M/s Reliance Communications Limited and Rs.1,07,67,500 on M/s Reliance Telecom Limited for the period of interruption in mobile services caused due to shutting down of services by these companies. The details of penalty imposed and recovered are given in Annexure.

Annexure

STATUS REPORT ON RECOVERY OF PENALTY DUE TO SWITCHING OFF/ON OF BTSs BY M/S RCL/RTL AS ON 21-02-2012								
SI No	CCA	Cluster numbers	USP	No of BTSs switched off by M/s RCL	No of BTSs switched off by M/s RTL	Total no. of Down time days	Penalty Recoverable (Rs.)	Penalty Recovered (Rs.)
1	AP	1 to 6	RCL	339	0	20049	10133500	10133500
2	Gujarat	19	RCL	45	0	2745	1372500	1372500
3	Karnataka	29,32	RCL	112	0	9968	3563000	3563000
4	Maharashtra	44,45,47	RCL	179	0	18167	6793000	6793000
5	Punjab	61	RCL	13	0	933	794500	794500
6	Rajasthan	62,63,65	RCL	149	0	14307	8149000	8149000
7	TN	68,69,70	RCL	156	0	10033	6283000	6283000
8	UP(E)	74,76,77	RCL	177	0	16239	8119500	8119500
9	Uttaranchal	72,73	RCL	21	0	2143	1114000	1114000
	Total RCL			1191	0	94584	46322000	46322000
10	Bihar	9,11,12,13	RTL	0	161	13920	7016000	7016000
11	Jharkhand	26	RTL	0	55	3630	3080000	3080000
12	MP	35	RTL	0	7	788	394000	394000
13	WB	66	RTL	0	5	325	277500	277500
	Total RTL			0	228	18663	10767500	10767500
	Grand Total			1191	228	113247	57089500	57089500

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 34
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012
SHARE IN TELECOM MANUFACTURING**

†*34. SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian companies have only three per cent share in the telecom equipment market in the country;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the said share of the domestic companies?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

- (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 34 FOR 14TH MARCH, 2012 REGARDING “SHARE IN TELECOM MANUFACTURING”

(a)& (b) According to TRAI recommendation on “Telecom Equipment Manufacturing Policy” dated 12th April 2011, the contribution of all domestic products has been 12-13% in the year 2009-10 while Indian products could meet just 3% of the Indian demand.

(c) With a view to increase share of domestically manufactured Electronic products which includes telecom equipment also, the Government, vide Notification No. 8(78)/2010-IPHW dated 10th February 2012, has laid down the policy for providing preference to domestically manufactured electronic products in procurement of those electronic products which have security implications for the country and in Government procurement for its own use and not with a view to commercial resale or with a view to use in the production of goods for commercial sale. Based on the above notification, each Ministry/Department has to issue notification for providing preference to domestically manufactured electronic product or products, either for reasons of security or for Government procurement. The notification would specify the percentage of procurement to be made from domestically manufactured electronic product or products but it shall not be less than 30% of the total procurement value of that electronic product or products. Further each Ministry/Department would also specify the domestic value addition requirement which the electronic product should satisfy for the product to qualify as domestically manufactured electronic product. The telecom equipment are security sensitive and hence Department of Telecommunication would also issue notification in line with above notification.

Ministry of Communications and Information Technology has already put in public domain draft National Policy on Electronics 2011 [http://mit.gov.in/sites/upload_files/dit/files/Draft-NationalPolicyonElectronics2011_4102011\(2\).pdf](http://mit.gov.in/sites/upload_files/dit/files/Draft-NationalPolicyonElectronics2011_4102011(2).pdf) and draft National Telecom Policy 2011 <http://www.dot.gov.in/NTP-2011/final-10.10.2011.pdf>. Both these policies are aimed at creating ecosystem for Electronic System Design and Manufacturing with increased value addition in the country. The draft National Telecom Policy 2012 has proposed to increase share of domestically manufactured telecom equipment and among others has following specific provision

“Promote the ecosystem for design, Research and Development, IPR creation, testing, standardization and manufacturing i.e. complete value chain for domestic production of telecommunication equipment to meet Indian telecom sector demand to the extent of 60% and 80% with a minimum value addition of 45% and 65% by the year 2017 and 2020 respectively.”

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 39
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

CONTRACTS FOR WIMAX SERVICES

*39. SHRI P.C. CHACKO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some franchisees were allegedly favoured in the award of the Leased Service Area contracts for WiMax services by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited in 2009;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether minimum stipulations were stated to have been overlooked/ manipulated for awarding the contracts and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether any Government agency has estimated the loss incurred to the exchequer as a result thereof and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

- (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 39 FOR 14TH MARCH, 2012 REGARDING “CONTRACTS FOR WIMAX SERVICES”

(a) & (b) There have been allegations regarding irregularities in award of franchisee in 16 Licenced Service Area for Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave access WiMax Services of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in 2009 including manipulation of minimum stipulations mentioned in the tender.

(c) & (d) The CBI has registered an FIR on 23.2.2012. In the FIR, loss to the tune of Rs. 535.50 Crores to BSNL has been alleged based on the preliminary investigations.

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DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 302
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2011**

UNSATISFACTORY SERVICE OF BSNL AND MTNL

†302. SHRI LAXMAN TUDU:
SHRI YOGI ADITYA NATH:
SHRI PREMDAS:
SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:
SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR:
SHRI BALKRISHNA K. SHUKLA:
SHRI RAO SAHEB DANVE PATIL:
SHRI NARAYANSINGH AMLABE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of complaints received from landline as well as mobile telephone subscribers for unsatisfactory services and poor network of BSNL and MTNL during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether the mobile connections provided to Members of Parliament are also not functioning properly during roaming;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government to curb the rising complaints for unsatisfactory and poor network service of both the PSU telecom companies;
- (d) the methodology adopted to collect the information regarding the quality of services of these PSUs;
- (e) whether there is any flaws in collecting the data or misleading data are given in regard to the quality of the services of these companies; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against the official responsible for such misleading data?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)**

(a) The number of complaints received by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) from landline as well as mobile telephone subscribers for unsatisfactory services and poor network during the last three years and the current year is given at Annexure –I for Landline subscribers and at Annexure-II for mobile subscribers. The information w.r.t. landline subscribers is maintained by BSNL circle wise whereas for mobile subscribers it is maintained zone wise.

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(b) & (c) There are some complaints regarding proper functioning of mobile connections provided to Members of Parliament during roaming. Whenever any such complaint is received, best efforts are made by BSNL/MTNL to address the same.

BSNL and MTNL are taking a number of steps for further improvement in services. Some of the steps taken by BSNL and MTNL for improvement of telecom services are as follows:

- Improving the wireline Network by change of cables, drop wire etc. as required.
- All exchanges have been made Digital to improve service quality.
- Rehabilitation of outdoor network like replacement of old instruments and drop wires is being done on continuous basis to reduce fault rate.
- Remote Switching Units are planned to reduce the last mile loop length wherever required.
- Deployment of Next Generation Network (NGN) to provide telephony services which replaces/ upgrades the existing landline network and provides a lot of services from a single network based on IP in line with the emerging trends.
- Optimisation of Mobile Network continuously for improving the performance based on techno-commercial considerations.
- Training & redeployment of staff.

(d) Telecom Regulator Authority of India (TRAI) has been collecting information about the performance of service providers including BSNL and MTNL on Quality of Service (QoS) parameters through (i) Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports received from service providers; (ii) monthly Point of Interconnect Congestion received from service providers; (iii) quarterly report on audit and assessment of Quality of Service by independent agencies appointed by TRAI; and (iv) quarterly report on customer perception of service through survey by independent agencies appointed by TRAI.

(e) No Madam.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

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Number of complaints received by BSNL and MTNL from landline subscribers

S.No.	Circle	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 upto 31.1.2012
	BSNL				
1	Andaman & Nicobar	788	618	664	320
2	Andhra Pradesh	141876	137919	130283	112961
3	Assam	22197	18621	15285	15120
4	Bihar	82022	44438	35681	22482
5	Chattisgarh	16040	14347	10309	8685
6	Gujarat	114077	106217	93035	87809
7	Haryana	52094	48471	34913	29470
8	Jammu & Kashmir	22464	18196	2695	11011
9	Himachal Pradesh	37024	27953	21786	21822
10	Jharkhand	20824	17005	8285	8030
11	Karnataka	141389	123732	116913	99335
12	Kerala	304291	261017	230694	216917
13	Madhya Pradesh	47336	40966	34453	28698
14	Maharashtra	247643	186054	179325	163293
15	North East - I	9549	8306	5825	7430
16	North East - II	4739	2777	2569	3180
17	Odisha	40277	36369	23333	21698
18	Punjab	123893	96301	53938	50280
19	Rajasthan	93415	77362	66024	56968
20	Tamilnadu	82337	73127	69430	85455
21	Uttar Pradesh (E)	81954	59344	53649	49479
22	Uttar Pradesh (W)	68761	54084	30431	27508
23	Uttarakhand	19583	17454	13978	13544
24	West Bengal	71840	64624	43466	36875
25	Calcutta Telephone District	136532	123553	131232	120989
26	Chennai Telecom District	31924	28897	28247	25705
	MTNL				
1	Delhi	2175472	2513291	2479857	2009969
2	Mumbai	3132888	2656984	2920510	2187327

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Number of complaints received by BSNL and MTNL from mobile subscribers

S.No.	Zone	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 upto 29.2.2012
	BSNL				
1	North Zone (J&K, Punjab, Haryana, HP, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, UP (E), UP (W))	1911291	851674	1006732	321632
2	South Zone (Kerala, Karnataka, AP, Tamil Nadu)	893299	501904	572358	211314
3	East Zone (Odisha, West Bengal, Kolkata, Bihar, Jharkhand, NE-I, NE-II, Assam, A&N)	316752	1511693	1686935	229611
4	West Zone (Maharashtra, MP, Chattisgarh, Gujarat)	1039728	1335457	1292160	273877
	MTNL				
1	Delhi	81199	80555	81842	20406
2	Mumbai	138627	159564	200143	159274

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 303
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

IRREGULARITIES IN ALLOTMENT OF ILD LICENCES

303. SHRI P. LINGAM:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI YASHVIR SINGH:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:
SHRI RUDRA MADHAB RAY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether serious irregularities have been reported in issuance of International Long Distance (ILD) Licence by the Department of Tele-communications (DoT) to a Hong Kong based company;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether CVC has found irregularities in purchase of WLL/CDMA integrated Fixed Wireless Terminals by BSNL and asked CBI to probe the purchase;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether as per the CVC initial estimates, several hundred crores of loss has been done to DoT, MTNL and BSNL;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the action taken by the Government against the official responsible for the same?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)**

(a) & (b) Madam, International Long distance (ILD) license is issued only to the Indian companies registered under the Companies Act, 1956. The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has referred a case related to M/s Data Access India Limited (DAIL), an ILD license, to Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for investigation. The ILD license issued to M/s DAIL in 2002 was suspended in the year 2005 due to non-compliance of the terms and conditions of the license. CBI is investigating the matter.

(c) to (g) CVG has examined the case of purchase of WLL/CDMA integrated Fixed Wireless Terminals by BSNL and referred the matter to CBI for investigation. CBI is investigating the matter.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 315
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

FREE ROAMING ACROSS THE COUNTRY

†315. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to remove the roaming charges across the country;
- (b) if so, the details of discussions held by the Government with telephone companies and other stakeholders in this regard alongwith the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)**

(a) to (c) There is a provision in the Draft National Telecom Policy (NTP) to review roaming charges with the ultimate objective of removing the roaming charge across the nation. One of the objectives of NTP is to achieve 'One Nation - Full Mobile Number Portability and work towards One Nation - Free Roaming'. The last date for feedback was 9.12.2011. Feedback have been received from the stake holders including telecom companies. NTP would be approved by the competent authority. Implementation would commence thereafter.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 325
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

SUGGESTIONS BY JAC OF BSNL

325. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR ROY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Joint Action Committee (JAC) of BSNL association/unions presented a charter of demand/suggestion before the management for improving the financial viability of the company and providing better service to the customer;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)**

(a) to (c) The Joint Action Committee (JAC) of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) associations/unions had given a notice for strike in support of their demands contained in the charter. The demands contained in the charter were mainly related to staff issues of BSNL. However, the details and action taken by BSNL/Government on the demands which were related to financial viability of the company and providing better services to the customer are as follows:

Sl. No.	Demand	Action Taken by BSNL/DOT
1.	Immediate procurement and supply of equipment and implementation of important business projects.	BSNL has already taken suitable steps for the procurement of equipment and completion of important business projects.
2.	Compensation for loss making rural services and quantification of Access Deficit Charges (ADC) through appropriate mechanism.	The matter is being examined in the Department of Telecommunications (Dot)

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 327
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

MOBILE TELEPHONE FACILITIES IN RURAL AREAS

†327. SHRI JAGADANAND SINGH:
SHRI S. SEMMALAI:
SHRI GANESH SINGH:
SHRI YASHBANT N.S. LAGURI:
SHRI RAJU SHETTI:
SHRI LAXMAN TUDU:
SHRI ANJAN KUMAR M. YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has fixed any target for diffusion of mobile telephone in rural and urban areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard, State-wise;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the MTNL and BSNL to compete with the private players in increasing their show base in providing better service to customers;
- (d) whether BSNL & MTNL proposes to install more mobile towers particularly in remote and rural areas for better penetration;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (f) the action taken by the Government to make the non-functional mobile towers functional?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)**

- (a) Under the Draft National Telecom Policy 2012, it is proposed to increase rural teledensity from current level of around 37 to 60 by 2017 and 100 by the year 2020.
- (b) A scheme has been launched by Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF) to provide subsidy support for setting up and managing 7353 infrastructure sites/towers in 500 districts spread over 27 states for provision of mobile services in the specified rural and remote areas, where there was no existing fixed wireless or mobile coverage. As on 31.01.2012, 7296 towers have been set up under the scheme. The infrastructure so created is being shared by upto three service providers for provision of mobile services.

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(c) Following steps are being taken by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to increase the show base:

- (i) increase number of franchisees/Retailers.
- (ii) implementing agreement with postal department to increase rural reach.
- (iii) availability of products in organized retail stores, malls, neighborhood markets etc.
- (iv) improving availability of network.
- (v) speedy redressal of complaints through call centres.

Steps taken/proposed to be taken by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) to increase the show base:

- (i) MTNL will be increasing its broadband & Globle System for Mobile communication (GSM)/3G capacity to cater to the demand for providing futuristic services.
- (ii) expansion/augmentation of existing 3G network to HSPA+ to provide high speed internet and high quality video and other bandwidth demanding services.
- (iii) MTNL is also expanding 2G/3G RF networks which will further improve network coverage and service experience.
- (iv) introduction of new technology for decongestion/efficient utilization of radio frequency spectrum.
- (v) MTNL is also bundling its services with data cards and handsets from various vendors.
- (vi) close monitoring of faults is being maintained. Emphasis has been given on the improvement of the quality of service.

(d) to (f) MTNL operates in Delhi and Mumbai only. BSNL undertakes the installation of towers on a continuous basis, based on techno-commercial consideration. Further BSNL has already has initiated and action for procurement of the Global System for Mobile (GSM) communication equipment for future expansion.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 348
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

MY STAMP SCHEME

†348. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of stamps made under the 'My Stamp Scheme' so, far, State-wise; and
- (b) the revenue earned/likely to be earned by the Government under the My Stamp Scheme?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)**

- (a) & (b) The information is being collected & will be laid on the Table of the House.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 359
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

SUPPLY OF TELECOM EQUIPMENTS

†359. DR. RAJAN SUSHANT:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether enhancement of telecommunication system particularly in remote and hilly regions of the country are being affected due to non-supply of telecom equipments, material, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government for proper and timely supply of required telecom equipments?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)**

- (a) & (b) The enhancement of telecommunication system of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been affected in respect of mobile services in some parts of the country due to cancellation of tenders floated for global System of Mobile Communication (GSM) lines during the last three years.
- (c) BSNL has initiated the action for procurement of additional Mobile equipment.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 363
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

INTERCEPTION SOLUTIONS BY NETWORKING SERVICE PROVIDERS

363. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:
SHRI MANISH TEWARI:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has directed all the communications and networking service providers including BlackBerry Messenger (BBM), Nokia, Pushmail, Skype, Yahoo, Gmail and others to provide interception solutions to tap these services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of these service providers;
- (c) whether Research in Motion (RIM) has provided the Government with an interception solution to tap its BBM service;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against those service providers who failed to provide the interception solution to Government of India; and
- (f) the steps taken/legal framework formulated by the Government/successive governments to protect the people against unlawful tapping of their electronic communications and to ensure individual privacy?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)**

(a) to (e) Madam, Government has mandated all the Telecom Service Providers and the Internet Service Providers to provide the Lawful Interception and Monitoring facilities to the security agencies for all the services including Blackberry Messenger (BBM), Nokia, Pushmail, Skype, Yahoo, Gmail etc as a part of their license agreement. As such Security agencies are able to intercept the services including Blackberry Messenger (BBM), Nokia,

Contd...2/-

Pushmail, Skype, Yahoo, Gmail etc through the lawful interception facilities provided by the Telecom Service Providers. However, Security Agencies have intimated that they are not able to decrypt some encrypted intercepted communication to readable format. The Telecom Service Providers have stated that they have provided the requisite interception facilities to Security Agencies. With regard to decrypting the intercepted communication, it is stated that Telecom Service Providers are mere carriers, who are not supposed to know the content of the intercepted messages and may not be able to decrypt the content.

World over several services providers are providing services like Blackberry Messenger, Nokia Pushmail, Skype, Yahoo, Gmail & other services across the globe for sharing audio, video, image, email, data and accessing other web services anytime and anywhere by everyone in the world in a secure manner. The security of these services is achieved through encryption technology. These services are mostly availed by the citizens across world through Internet either in their individual capacity or as part of commercial activities. There are multifarious aspects involved in dealing with the issues related to such communication services such as technical, international relationship, legal and regulatory policy, commercial and security requirements etc.

A technical committee established by the Government analysed all the above issues in order to work out an appropriate solution to the problem which balances the requirements of Security Agencies with the secured communication needs of trade, commerce and industry. The complexities involved in the issue resulted in the committee being unable to come out with unanimous conclusive recommendations. The report of the committee and the comments of some the members on the Report were referred to a high level panel of experts who have since submitted their final recommendations on a focused and practical approach to the entire issue. However, the Government regularly interacts with all stakeholders to resolve the issues arising from time to time.

(f) The Lawful interception & monitoring of the communications is governed by the provision of section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and Rule 419A of Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rule, 2007. The unlawful interception is a punishable offence under section 26 of Indian Telegraph Act 1885 where one shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 379
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

UNCLAIMED AMOUNT IN POSTAL ACCOUNTS

379. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of savings and other accounts in various post offices in the country are inactive and unclaimed deposits are lying therein for several years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of total unclaimed amount in such accounts throughout the country, State-wise;
- (d) the action taken by the Government to identify the depositors; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure safety of the money lying in such accounts?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)**

- (a) Yes, Madam. There are inactive (Silent) accounts under Savings Account Scheme.
- (b) & (c) The information is under collection and will be laid on the Table of the House.
- (d) The following steps are taken at regular intervals to identify the depositors of such accounts:-
 - (i) Notices are issued every year to the account holders of such accounts who are not maintaining minimum balance.
 - (ii) Special drives are launched to re-activate such accounts by issuing notices and giving information through electronic media.
- (e) The balance amount lying in such accounts remains in the National Small Savings Fund (NSSF) which is managed by Government of India. To ensure safety of the money lying in these accounts, valid Identity and Address proof is taken from the individual who claim the amount in the account at the time of reactivation.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 382
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

CANCELLATION OF TELECOM LICENCES

†382. SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH:
SHRI RAVNEET SINGH:
SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI RUDRA MADHAB RAY:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:
SHRI P.K. BIJU:
SHRI YASHVIR SINGH:
SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE:
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:
SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH:
SHRI ANANTKUMAR HEGDE:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:
SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN:
SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:
SHRI NIMMALA KRISTAPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Supreme Court of India in its recent judgement has cancelled a large number of telecom licenses allotted to various telecom companies;
- (b) if so, the details of such companies; company-wise and circle-wise;
- (c) whether some foreign Governments have approached the Indian Government in the aftermath of the Supreme Court judgement in this regard; if so, the details thereof and the issues raised by them;
- (d) the amount of license fee likely to be refunded as a result of cancellation of these licenses and the manner in which the Government proposes to re-allocate these licenses;
- (e) whether the Government has finalized or proposes to revisit the National Telecom Policy in the light of the Supreme Court judgement; and
- (f) if so, the details alongwith the salient features thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)**

- (a) Madam, all the 122 Unified Access Services (UAS) licences granted in the year 2008 has been quashed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, vide its judgement dated 02.02.2012 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 423 of 2010 with Writ Petition (Civil) No. 10 of 2011. The above direction of the Court shall become operative after four months from the date of the judgement.
- (b) Details of above said 122 UAS licences alongwith the name of the company and name of the service areas is given in **Annexure**.
- (c) Russian Government and Norwegian Government have approached this Government. The Russian Government has conveyed that Sistema Shyam Telecommunications Ltd. (SSTL) has invested over US\$ 3 billion in the Telecom sector, but its license has been cancelled due to some legal problems which they understand but this is a matter of serious concern for its investors. Norwegian Government has sought an interaction to discuss the verdict of the Supreme Court on the cancellation of the 2G licences which involves the Norwegian company, Telenor.
- (d) The Government, on 03.02.2012, has sought the recommendations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) as per the directions of the Supreme Court in the above said judgement.
- (e) & (f) The new National Telecom Policy has not been finalized.

**List of 122 Unified Access Services (UAS) licences issued in 2008 which have been
quashed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.**

S. No.	Name of Licensee Company	Service Area	Effective Date of Licence
1.	Allianz Infratech (P) Ltd.	Bihar	31-Jul-2008
2.	Allianz Infratech (P) Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	31-Jul-2008
3.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
4.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Delhi	25-Jan-2008
5.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Gujarat	25-Jan-2008
6.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Haryana	25-Jan-2008
7.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Karnataka	25-Jan-2008
8.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Kerala	25-Jan-2008
9.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra	25-Jan-2008
10.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Mumbai	25-Jan-2008
11.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Punjab	25-Jan-2008
12.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Rajasthan	25-Jan-2008
13.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Tamilnadu (including Chennai Service Area)	25-Jan-2008
14.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	25-Jan-2008
15.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	25-Jan-2008
16.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Assam	25-Jan-2008
17.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Jammu & Kashmir	25-Jan-2008
18.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Karnataka	25-Jan-2008
19.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Kolkata	25-Jan-2008
20.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	North East	25-Jan-2008
21.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Orissa	25-Jan-2008
22.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Punjab	25-Jan-2008
23.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Tamilnadu (including Chennai Service Area)	25-Jan-2008
24.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	West Bengal	25-Jan-2008
25.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
26.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Assam	25-Jan-2008
27.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Bihar	25-Jan-2008
28.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Delhi	25-Jan-2008
29.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Gujarat	25-Jan-2008
30.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Haryana	25-Jan-2008
31.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
32.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Jammu & Kashmir	25-Jan-2008
33.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Karnataka	25-Jan-2008
34.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Kerala	25-Jan-2008
35.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Kolkata	25-Jan-2008
36.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
37.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Maharashtra	25-Jan-2008

38.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	North East	25-Jan-2008
39.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Orissa	25-Jan-2008
40.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Punjab	25-Jan-2008
41.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Rajasthan	25-Jan-2008
42.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Tamilnadu (including Chennai Service Area)	25-Jan-2008
43.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	25-Jan-2008
44.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	25-Jan-2008
45.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	West Bengal	25-Jan-2008
46.	S Tel Pvt. Ltd.	Assam	25-Jan-2008
47.	S Tel Pvt. Ltd.	Bihar	25-Jan-2008
48.	S Tel Pvt. Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
49.	S Tel Pvt. Ltd.	Jammu & Kashmir	25-Jan-2008
50.	S Tel Pvt. Ltd.	North East	25-Jan-2008
51.	S Tel Pvt. Ltd.	Orissa	25-Jan-2008
52.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
53.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Assam	25-Jan-2008
54.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Bihar	25-Jan-2008
55.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Delhi	25-Jan-2008
56.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Gujarat	25-Jan-2008
57.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Haryana	25-Jan-2008
58.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
59.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Jammu & Kashmir	25-Jan-2008
60.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Karnataka	25-Jan-2008
61.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Kerala	25-Jan-2008
62.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Kolkata	25-Jan-2008
63.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
64.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Maharashtra	25-Jan-2008
65.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Mumbai	25-Jan-2008
66.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	North East	25-Jan-2008
67.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Orissa	25-Jan-2008
68.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Punjab	25-Jan-2008
69.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Tamilnadu (including Chennai Service Area)	25-Jan-2008
70.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	25-Jan-2008
71.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	25-Jan-2008
72.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	West Bengal	25-Jan-2008
73.	Spice Communications Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
74.	Spice Communications Ltd.	Delhi	25-Jan-2008
75.	Spice Communications Ltd.	Haryana	25-Jan-2008
76.	Spice Communications Ltd.	Maharashtra	25-Jan-2008
77.	Tata Teleservices Ltd.	Assam	25-Jan-2008
78.	Tata Teleservices Ltd.	Jammu & Kashmir	25-Jan-2008
79.	Tata Teleservices Ltd.	North East	25-Jan-2008

80.	Unitech Wireless (Delhi) Pvt.Ltd.	Delhi	25-Jan-2008
81.	Unitech Wireless (East) Pvt. Ltd.	Assam	25-Jan-2008
82.	Unitech Wireless (East) Pvt. Ltd.	Bihar	25-Jan-2008
83.	Unitech Wireless (East) Pvt. Ltd.	North East	25-Jan-2008
84.	Unitech Wireless (East) Pvt. Ltd.	Orissa	25-Jan-2008
85.	Unitech Wireless (East) Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	25-Jan-2008
86.	Unitech Wireless (East) Pvt. Ltd.	West Bengal	25-Jan-2008
87.	Unitech Wireless (Kolkata) Pvt. Ltd.	Kolkata	25-Jan-2008
88.	Unitech Wireless (Mumbai) Pvt. Ltd.	Mumbai	25-Jan-2008
89.	Unitech Wireless (North) Pvt. Ltd.	Haryana	25-Jan-2008
90.	Unitech Wireless (North) Pvt. Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
91.	Unitech Wireless (North) Pvt. Ltd.	Jammu & Kashmir	25-Jan-2008
92.	Unitech Wireless (North) Pvt. Ltd.	Punjab	25-Jan-2008
93.	Unitech Wireless (North) Pvt. Ltd.	Rajasthan	25-Jan-2008
94.	Unitech Wireless (North) Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	25-Jan-2008
95.	Unitech Wireless (South) Pvt. Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
96.	Unitech Wireless (South) Pvt. Ltd.	Karnataka	25-Jan-2008
97.	Unitech Wireless (South) Pvt. Ltd.	Kerala	25-Jan-2008
98.	Unitech Wireless (Tamil Nadu) Pvt. Ltd.	Tamilnadu (including Chennai Service Area)	25-Jan-2008
99.	Unitech Wireless (West) Pvt. Ltd.	Gujarat	25-Jan-2008
100.	Unitech Wireless (West) Pvt. Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
101.	Unitech Wireless (West) Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra	25-Jan-2008
102.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
103.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Assam	25-Jan-2008
104.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Bihar	25-Jan-2008
105.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Delhi	25-Jan-2008
106.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Gujarat	25-Jan-2008
107.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Haryana	25-Jan-2008
108.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
109.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Jammu & Kashmir	25-Jan-2008
110.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Karnataka	25-Jan-2008
111.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Kerala	25-Jan-2008
112.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Kolkata	25-Jan-2008
113.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
114.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Maharashtra	25-Jan-2008
115.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Mumbai	25-Jan-2008
116.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	North East	25-Jan-2008
117.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Orissa	25-Jan-2008
118.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Rajasthan	25-Jan-2008
119.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Tamilnadu (including Chennai Service Area)	25-Jan-2008
120.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	25-Jan-2008
121.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	25-Jan-2008
122.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	West Bengal	25-Jan-2008

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 393
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

REVENUE FROM TELECOM SECTOR

†393. DR. SANJAY SINH:
SHRI HARISH CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether telecommunication sector has the potential of becoming the second highest source of revenue in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the revenue share of telecom sector in the Gross Domestic Product; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government to exploit the potential of the sector and the outcome thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)**

(a) & (b) As per the Central Statistical Organization (CSO) Report, the contribution of the telecom sector in the Gross Domestic Product was 3.6% in the year 2009-10.

(c) The Government has introduced various policy measures which have resulted in an increase in the teledensity from 3.6% in March, 2001 to 70.89% in March, 2011. The contribution of the telecom sector to Gross Domestic Product has grown from 1.9% in 2000-01 to 3.6% in 2009-10.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 399
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012

MODERNISATION OF POST OFFICES

399. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRI SUGUMAR K.:
SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL:
SHRI MAROTRAO SAINUJI KOWASE:
SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL:
DR. KRUPARANI KILLI:
SHRI ZAFAR ALI NAQVI:
SHRI NARAYANSINGH AMLABE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from various State Governments for opening of New Post and Telegraph Offices/Sub-Post Offices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon, State-wise and location-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to modernize/computerize the rural post offices in the country with modern technology;
- (d) if so, the number of post offices modernized/computerized in the rural areas, State-wise and the time by which the rest of the post offices are likely to be computerized;
- (e) whether the Government has constituted an expert committee for strengthening postal network and upgradation of the post offices with modern technology; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government on its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

- (a) A proposal for opening of Post Offices has been received from Chhattisgarh Government during the current financial year. No proposal has been received from the State Governments for opening of new Telegraph offices.

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- (b): Department of Posts has included it in its 12th Plan Proposal and has presented it to the Planning Commission.
- (c): Government has approved the IT Modernization Project of Department of Posts covering all Post Offices of the country including Branch Post Offices in rural areas.
- (d): State-wise details of computerised Post Offices is annexed. Department has planned to computerise remaining Post Offices by 2014.
- (e): No, Madam.
- (f): Does not arise in view of (e) above.

ANNEXURE

Circle-wise Total Number of Post Offices Computerized in rural areas as on 31.12.2011

S. No.	Name of the Circles	Number of Post Offices Computerized in rural areas as on 31.12.2011
1	Andhra Pradesh	1299
2	Assam	401
3	Bihar	573
4	Chhattisgarh	95
5	Delhi	6
6	Gujarat	565
7	Haryana	159
8	Himachal Pradesh	332
9	Jammu & Kashmir	54
10	Jharkhand	161
11	Karnataka	735
12	Kerala	924
13	Madhya Pradesh	285
14	Maharashtra	928
15	North East	153
16	Orissa	517
17	Punjab	335
18	Rajasthan	670
19	Tamil Nadu	1359
20	Uttarakhand	184
21	Uttar Pradesh	962
22	West Bengal	699
	Total	11396

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 404
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012
IRREGULARITIES IN 3G ROAMING**

404. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:
SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSHI LAKSHMI:
SHRI RAMESH RATHOD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some of the private mobile operators have been reported to violate the terms and conditions of their licenses and providing 3G services where they have not been allocated licenses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, circle-wise and operator-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has examined the matter;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken by the Government against defaulting operators and also to recover the losses;
- (e) whether the security agencies have also raised their concern as they are unable to intercept the services provided by these operators; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and there action of Department of Telecommunications thereto?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)**

(a) & (b) Madam, it came to the notice of the Government that some telecom service providers who do not have 3G spectrum and whose licences have not been amended for use of 3G spectrum are offering 3G services to their customers by entering into the intra service area roaming agreement with the service providers who have 3G spectrum and whose licences have been amended for use of 3G spectrum. The service area wise details of such telecom service providers is attached at **Annexure-I**.

(c) & (d) The matter has been examined vis-a-vis the terms and conditions of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Unified Access Service (UAS) licence, terms and conditions of the Notice Inviting Application (NIA) issued for auction of 3G spectrum along with queries & responses issued in this regard and the amendment of license for right to use of 3G spectrum issued to the successful bidders. It has been concluded that provisioning of the 3G services in a particular service area by a telecom service provider without having the 3G spectrum, 3G network and amendment for use of 3G spectrum is not permitted. Accordingly instructions were issued on 23.12.2011 to such telecom service providers for stopping 3G services immediately without prejudice to any other remedy available to the licensor and also to any other actions for the breach of any of the conditions of the CMTS/UAS license agreements signed with the telecom service providers. These telecom service providers have filed petitions in Hon'ble Telecom Dispute Settlement & Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) against the instructions issued on 23.12.2011 and on 24.12.2011, Hon'ble TDSAT has ordered that DoT may not take any coercive action for enforcing the impugned order dated 23.12.2011. The matter is subjudice.

(e) & (f) The information is being collected.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 424
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

CLOSING OF POST OFFICES

424. SHRI SHIVARAMA GOUDA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many Post and Telegraph Offices in the country including Karnataka are closed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether people from all walks of life are facing great hardships as a result thereof;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to reopen the closed Post Offices; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the closed Post & Telegraph Offices reopened/likely to be reopened?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)**

(a) & (b) Circle-wise details of Post Offices closed during 2008-09, 2009-10 & 2010-11 are at **Annexure-I**. Circle-wise details of Telegraph Offices closed during 2008-09, 2009-10 & 2010-11 are at **Annexure-II**. Post Offices are generally closed as a result of litigation and poor conditions of buildings etc. The Telegraph Offices are closed because the other efficient modes of communication like Mobile Telephones, Internet, etc. has impacted the Telegraph Services and the Telegraph traffic has reduced drastically.

(c) No, Madam. People are accessing postal services through nearby Post Offices. Telegraph Services are available in the country through state of art WTMS (Web based Telegraph Messaging System). Telegrams can also be booked on phone by dialing 1585 (Phonogram Services) from any BSNL telephone, local or STD/PCOs. Telegrams facility is also available in Customer Service Centres of BSNL in all Circles.

(d) & (e) Closed Post Offices are re-opened on availability of suitable accommodation and fulfillment of stipulated norms. As regard Telegraph Offices, there is no proposal for re-opening due to loss of revenue.

ANNEXURE-I

Number of Post Offices Closed during 2008-09, 2009-10 & 2010-11

Sl. No.	Circles	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
1	Andhra Pradesh	1	4	0
2	Assam	0	2	0
3	Bihar	0	2	0
4	Chhattisgarh	0	2	0
5	Delhi	0	0	0
6	Gujarat	1	0	0
7	Haryana	0	0	0
8	Himachal Pradesh	0	1	0
9	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0
10	Jharkhand	0	0	0
11	Karnataka	0	0	0
12	Kerala	0	0	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0
14	Maharashtra	1	1	0
15	North East	0	0	0
16	Orissa	0	0	2
17	Punjab	0	0	0
18	Rajasthan	1	0	0
19	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0
20	Uttar Pradesh	0	2	0
21	Uttarakhand	0	0	0
22	West Bengal	0	0	0
	Total	4	14	2

ANNEXURE-II

Telegraph Offices Closed during 2008-09, 2009-10 & 2010-11

Sl. No.	Name of Circles	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
1.	A & N	20	00	00
2.	A.P.	182	09	00
3.	Assam	270	00	03
4.	Bihar	159	10	00
5.	Chennai Telephone	00	03	01
6.	Chhattisgarh	81	00	00
7.	Gujarat	09	08	00
8.	Haryana	04	04	00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	361	01	00
10.	J & K	35	01	00
11.	Jharkhand	11	00	00
12.	Karnataka	1419	83	00
13.	Kerala	834	14	35
14.	Madhya Pradesh	19	02	00
15.	Maharashtra	45	149	03
16.	North East- I	10	54	05
17.	North East – II	59	05	00
18.	Orissa	470	01	03
19.	Punjab	15	02	08
20.	Rajasthan	99	04	01
21.	Tamilnadu	596	171	00
22.	U.P. (East)	96	25	00
23.	U.P. (West)	10	72	01
24.	Uttaranchal	142	00	01
25.	West Bengal	1982	26	00
26.	NTR - Delhi	03	15	09
	Total	6931	659	70

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 425
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

INTERNET BROADBAND FACILITIES

†425. SHRI HARISH CHAUDHARY:
SHRI DHRUVA NARAYANA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Broadband connections provided in the country so far separately in urban and rural areas, State-wise;
- (b) whether the country's internet users expected to double to 300 million by 2014;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken to increase broadband internet penetration in future particularly in rural areas in each State?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)**

(a) The number of Broadband connections provided by the end of December 2011 are 13.35 million. The state wise break-up of Broadband connections is at **Annexure-I**. Broadband Connections provided by BSNL in urban and rural area, Circle wise as on 31-01-2012 are placed at **Annexure-II**.

(b) & (c) As per the objectives contained in draft National Telecom Policy 2012, it is proposed to Provide affordable and reliable broadband on demand by the year 2015 and to achieve 175 million broadband connections by the year 2017 and 600 million by the year 2020 at minimum 2 Mbps download speed and making available higher speeds of at least 100 Mbps on demand.

Contd...2/-

(d) Following schemes being implemented under Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), will further increase the broadband internet penetration in rural areas:

1. **Rural Wireline Broadband Scheme**

BSNL will provide 8, 88,832 wire-line Broadband connections to individual users and Government Institutions over a period of 5-years in this scheme. As on February 2012, a total of 3,54,595 broadband connections have been provided.

2. a) **“Optical Fibre Network Augmentation, Creation and Management of Intra-District SDHQ-DHQ OFC Network in ASSAM”**

This OFC Scheme would connect 354 locations in 27 Districts of Assam within 18 months from 12/2/2010. As of February 2012, about 177 nodes have been installed.

b) **“Optical Fibre Network Augmentation, Creation and Management of Intra-District SDHQ-DHQ OFC Network in NE-I Circle (comprising states of Meghalaya, Mizoram & Tripura),”**

The States of Meghalaya, Mizoram & Tripura have been taken up for OFC augmentation in this scheme. This OFC Scheme would connect 188 locations in 19 Districts within 24 months from the date of signing of the Agreement.

c) **“Optical Fibre Network Augmentation, Creation and Management of Intra-District SDHQ-DHQ OFC Network in NE-II Circle (comprising states of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur & Nagaland),”**

The States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur & Nagaland have been taken up for OFC augmentation in this scheme. This OFC Scheme would connect 407 locations in 30 Districts within 30 months from the date of signing of the Agreement.

3. **National Optical Fibre Network**

The scheme of National Optical Fiber Network (NOFN) is being implemented, for providing Broadband connectivity to Panchayats. The objective is to extend the existing optical fiber network to Panchayats by utilizing the Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF).

Contd...3/-

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 426
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

POST OFFICES IN RENTED BUILDINGS

†426. SHRIMATI KAMLA DEVI PATLE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Posts and Telegraph offices in the country operating from private rented buildings separately in rural and urban areas, State-wise;
- (b) the details of rent paid by the Government for these offices during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for construction of buildings for post offices in the country, State-wise including Chhattisgarh?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)**

- (a) The number of Post Offices in the country operating from private rented buildings separately in rural and urban areas, State wise is enclosed as Annexure "A". The information regarding number of Telegraph offices in the country operating from private rented buildings is being collected by Department of Telecommunications and will be laid down on the Table of the House.
- (b) The details of rent paid by the Government for Post offices operating from private rented buildings during the last three years and the current year, State-wise is enclosed as Annexure "B". The information regarding rent paid by the Government for Telegraph offices in the country operating from private rented buildings is being collected by Department of Telecommunications and will be laid down on the Table of the House.
- (c) The construction of Departmental Post office buildings all over India including Chhattisgarh is pursued meticulously, within the allotted funds. In the matter of construction, preference is given to the Post offices (i) having manpower of 15 and above; (ii) located in high rented buildings; and (iii) where special circumstances exist.

Contd...2/-

Annexure-A			
Number of Post Offices in the country operating from private rented buildings separately in rural and urban areas			
Name of Circle	Number of Post Offices operating from private rented buildings in		TOTAL
	Urban areas	Rural areas	
Andhra Pradesh	818	1205	2023
Assam	200	385	585
Bihar	454	325	779
Chhattisgarh	178	100	278
Delhi	210	0	210
Gujarat	527	530	1057
Haryana	212	142	354
Himachal Pradesh	58	310	368
Jharkhand	116	215	331
Jammu & Kashmir	96	108	204
Karnataka	946	374	1320
Kerala	345	871	1216
Madhya Pradesh	496	269	765
Maharashtra including Goa State	816	987	1803
North East Circle including Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura States	79	113	192
Orissa	350	597	947
Punjab	267	255	522
Rajasthan	351	576	927
Tamil Nadu including Puducheery State	958	1315	2273
Uttar Pradesh	1146	911	2057
Uttrakhand	136	160	296
West Bengal including Sikkim State & Andaman Nicobar Islands	788	646	1434
TOTAL	9547	10394	19941

Annexure-B				
Details of rent paid by the Government for rented post office buildings during the last three years and the current year, state-wise				
Name of Circle	Rent paid during the year			
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (Upto January,2012)
Andhra Pradesh	48154	48115	53604	44574
Assam	17298	17669	17856	14026
Bihar	8097	21111	16031	9345
Chhattisgarh	6174	4791	7776	7708
Delhi	21020	17995	55052	20562
Gujarat	16616	19044	24055	20811
Haryana	9291	9323	10404	8977
Himachal Pradesh	5747	5550	5999	5242
Jammu & Kashmir	4992	6114	7364	6597
Jharkhand	8089	7816	5801	4853
Karnataka	41223	39042	59960	37448
Kerala	35302	38710	43430	33621
Madhya Pradesh	12828	14013	15381	14458
Maharashtra including Goa State	59807	69564	73954	59568
North East Circle including Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura States	9335	6819	7810	7035
Orissa	16707	14744	15622	16684
Punjab	12286	12696	13006	9829
Rajasthan	24938	27868	32119	18546
Tamil Nadu including Puduchery State	61660	180463	122873	59376
Uttar Pradesh	51729	55914	56389	82949
Uttrakhand	8096	8821	10200	10408
West Bengal including Sikkim State	66692	67776	91880	67905
TOTAL	546081	693958	746566	560522

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 231
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

POSTAGE CHARGES

†231. SHRIMATI KAMLA DEVI PATLE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to reduce postage charges/give rebate on sending condolence messages particularly through Post Cards;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)**

- (a) No, Madam.
- (b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c) The service of Post Cart is already subsidized by the Government.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 262
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

APPLICATIONS UNDER RTI

†262. SHRI MANSUKH BHAI D. VASAVA:
SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of applications received for information under Right to Information Act in the Ministry during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the number of applications in respect of which information has been provided;
- (c) whether the Government has received any complaint in regard to providing incomplete information or information not based on facts; and
- (d) if so, the number of such complaints received and the action taken by the Government in this regard and also against the persons responsible for the same?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)**

(a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 284
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

BSNL AND MTNL OFFICES IN RENTED BUILDINGS

284. SHRI ANJAN KUMAR M. YADAV:
SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the BSNL and MTNL are making efforts to vacate the rented buildings and shift their offices to their own buildings in the interest of avoiding the rent;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the reaction of the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the amount spent on rent by both the PSUs during the last three years and the current year, State-wise including the offices in Delhi?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)

(a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 291
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2012**

EXCESS SPECTRUM

291. SHRI NIMMALA KRISTAPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Telecom Commission has approved charging of excess spectrum held by various operators from the date of allotment of such spectrum partially based on TRAI recommendation and partially based on the auction process;
- (b) if so, the details of such approval of the Telecom Commission with respect to charging of excess spectrum;
- (c) whether the Government has been allotting 2G spectrum till now without any additional one time charge either for the contracted amount of spectrum or for spectrum beyond the contracted amount;
- (d) if so, the estimated loss to the Government as a result of free allotment of spectrum beyond the contracted value; and
- (e) the action taken/being taken by the Government to recover the loss suffered as result thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)

(a) & (b): The Telecom Commission has given its recommendations on charging for spectrum including excess spectrum after considering the Recommendations of TRAI on "Spectrum Management and Licensing Framework" of 10th May, 2010 and further recommendations of TRAI dated 08th February, 2011". However no decision has been taken in this regard.

(c) to (e): No separate one time additional upfront charges are levied for allotment of either for the contracted or beyond the contracted amount of spectrum. However, annual spectrum usage charges on percentage of AGR (Adjusted Gross Revenue) are being levied. The initial/start-up spectrum is allotted to the Unified Access Service Licensees as per the provisions of their Service Licence Agreements subject to availability of spectrum. Additional spectrum beyond the above is also considered for allocation after ensuring optimal and efficient utilization of the already allotted spectrum, taking into account all types of traffic and subscribed criteria evolved from time to time.