

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2775
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2009
BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY
Singh Shri Rakesh

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

- (a) whether state-of-the-art technology has been used by private telecom companies for providing broadband services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been facing any problem due to using state-of-the-art technology for faster broadband connectivity in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

- (a) & (b) As per the scope of the licence agreement for provision of internet services, Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may use any device/technology/methodology to provide access to internet.
- (c) No, Madam.
- (d) Does not arise in view of the above.
- (e) For promoting the growth of broadband, the steps taken/being taken by the Government inter-alia are as under:-
 - # A large programme of deployment of wireless broadband using broadband wireless access for providing last mile connectivity is being implemented by BSNL. Under this project it has been planned to provide wireless broadband connectivity to 1000 rural blocks.
 - # It is also proposed to provide wireless broadband connectivity to about 5000 rural blocks through wireless broadband under Phase-II of this project.
 - # Indian Telegraph Act 1885 has been amended to enable provision of USOF support for broadband connectivity to rural and remote areas.
 - # An agreement has been signed by USOF with BSNL for providing wire-line broadband connections in and around 28,000 villages/rural locations over a period of 5-years. The subsidy disbursement is for broadband connections, Customer Premises Equipment (CPE), computer/ computing devices, setting up of kiosks for public access to broadband services.