Title: Regarding Status of implementation of recommendations in the Reports of Standing Committee on Information Technology.- Laid.

12.58 hrs.

(ii) Status of implementation of recommendations in the Reports of Standing Committee on Information Technology *

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Dayanidhi Maran, you also lay your statement on the Table of the House.

… (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): Yes, Sir. I am laying the statement on the Table of the House. … (*Interruptions*)

Sir, In pursuance of Direction 73 A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part II dated September 01, 2004, I am making this statement on the status of the implementation of the recommendations contained in the 1st , 2nd & 3rd reports of the standing Committee on IT in respect of three Departments under the Ministry of Communications & Information Technology.

REPORT NO. 1 IN RESPECT OF DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

Standing Committee on Information Technology examined the Demands for Grants for the year 2004-05 of the Department of Information Technology in its meeting held on 18.8.2004. The report was presented in Lok Sabha on 23.8.2004. the report contains 16 recommendations.

These recommendations of the said Committee mainly relate to need for additional funds, allocation of 2-3 percent of their Plan Budget for IT, requirement of additional funds for national Action Plan on E-Governance, establishment of National e-Governance Fund, apprehension in utilizing funds by Media Lab Asia and to make efforts and take steps to attract more sponsorship in Media Lab Asia Projects, enhancement of outlays of C-DAC, similar efforts be made for setting up of CICs in other States of the

*Also placed in Library, See No. LT 1920/2005.

country as has been done in J & K, better untilisation of funds provided for Manpower development for Application Specific Integrated Circuit (ASIC) Design, recognition of DOEACC 'B" level course by IGNOU and to give serious though to the functioning, manpower requirement, preserving talent, congenial environment in NIC by utilizing modern management techniques and attracting fresh talents as adopted by multinational companies.

Government has accepted all the 16 Recommendations and taken all possible steps towards implementation. Planning Commission appreciated additional funds requirement of DIT and allocated Rs. 929.30 crore for the year 2005-06. All State Governments have been advised to allocate at least 3% for e-Governance Funds is under active consideration.

Eleventh Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations / Observations of the Committee contained in its First Report on Demands for Grants for the year 2004-05 relating to the Department of Information Technology was presented to Lok Sabha on 9.3.2005.

REPORT NO. 2 IN RESPECT OF DEPARTMENT OF POSTS:

Committee examined Demands for Grants of the Department of Posts for the year 2004-05 on 10.08.2004 and presented its 2nd Report in this regard to the Lok Sabha on 23.08. 2004. The Report contains 12 recommendations.

These recommendations of the Committee mainly related to the need for expansion of Postal network to serve the people at large; to increase share of Speed Post in express mail market by adopting commercial approach; to achieve the target of computerizing 5616 post offices within 10th Plan period; to chalk out detailed policy for construction of department's own buildings; to take up with Ministry of Finance to enhance the per account/per certificate remuneration for saving bank agency work and to treat pension payments on common head as in the case of other Ministries to reduce working expenses of the Department; the need for increasing Plan expenditure for North East; the need for full utilisation of allocation under 10th Plan; to overcome recurring losses and optimize the bouquet of services/ products of the Department; and, the need for imparting proper and qualitative training for staff.

All the 12 recommendations of the Committee have been considered in the Department of Posts. The action proposed by the Committee has already been taken / initiated on all recommendations.

The Standing Committee vide its 12th Report presented to Lok Sabha on 9.3.2005 has accepted the observations made by the Government in respect of 5 recommendations. In respect of 4 recommendations, the Committee does not desire to pursue in view of the reply of the Government. Recommendations/ observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and reiterated their recommendations, action has been initiated to comply with these recommendations of the Committee.

REPORT NO. 3 IN RESPECT OF DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS:

The Committee for examining the Demands for Grants for the year 2004-05 of the Department of Telecommunications met on 10th August, 2004 and presented its 3rd Report in this regard to Lok Sabha on 23.08.2004. There are altogether 22 recommendations.

These recommendations mainly relate to reimbursement of Licence fee and Spectrum charges to BSNL, Higher allocation of funds for replacement of MARR VPTs, Checking erosion of customer base of BSNL, Timely procurement of material / equipments, Fulfillment of targets for North-Eastern Region, Enforcement of Licence Agreements on operators, Reductions of waiting list and fault rate, Recoverey of outstanding arrears, Improving marketing strategies by BSNL, Improving the quality of services by MTNL & minimizing fault rate, Revival of ITI Ltd., Ensuring generation of required revenue by C-DOT, Updating of Research by C-DOT, Strengthening institutional capabilities of TRAI & upgrading the knowledge base, Utilisation of budget provision by Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal, Wireless Planning & Coordination Wing and Wireless Monitoring Organisation.

All the above recommendations have been considered and accepted by the Government. Action has been initiated for implementation of all the recommendations.

Thirteenth Report on the Action Taken by the government on the Recommendations/ Observations of the Committee contained in its Third Report on Demands for Grants for the year 2004-05 relating to the department of Telecommunications was presented to Lok Sabha on 9.3.2005.

… (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 o' clock.

12.59 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till

Fourteen of the Clock.

14.06 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch

at Six minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we will take item no. 26, matters under Rule 377.