Information Security Education and Awareness Project

215. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a)   whether there is any scheme for participation of private institutes under Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) Project, across the country;

(b)   if so, the complete details thereof;

(c)   the details of institutes which participated during the last three years in the above scheme; and

(d)   the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) The Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) project is aimed at human resource development in the country in the area of Information Security. The academic activities of the ISEA project are implemented by 6 Resource Centres (including Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai) and 33 Participating Institutes (including National Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Information Technology, Government Engineering Colleges, select centres of Centre for Development of Advanced Computing and National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology).

A Scheme for participation of private institutes under ISEA Project was introduced on 23.2.2006 under which the following benefits to the AICTE/UGC approved non-profit private institutes were envisaged:–

- Access to their faculty/staff to attend Faculty Training' Programmes or any other training programmes conducted by Resource Centres/Participating Institutes on payment of requisite fee and meeting all other expenditures.

- Access to the training material, courseware developed under ISEA project.

No financial support to the private institutes was envisaged in the said scheme.

No formal proposals were received by the Department during the last three years and the current year under the above scheme. However, during this period, around 600 faculty members from various private institutions were trained under short-term

training programmes conducted by the implementing agencies. Further, around 70 private engineering colleges across the country participated in the half/one day awareness programme conducted under the ISEA project.

Quality of MTNL and BSNL services

216. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is a fact that services provided by MTNL and BSNL are not satisfactory as compared to private operators;

(b)   if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c)   the steps Government is tacking to improve their efficiency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) The telecom subscribers of BSNL and MTNL sometimes face problems with regard to Quality of Service (QoS) as do Subscribers of private operators. However, BSNL and MTNL are, in general, meeting the QoS benchmarks prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority (TRAI).

Quality of Service (QoS) improvement is a continuous process. Actions being taken by BSNL and MTNL to improve their Quality of Service, are as follows:

- All circles are keeping adequate stock of spare cable for emergency purposes.

- Close co-ordination is being maintained with Police authorities to minimize the cases of cable theft.

- Close co-ordination with Municipal authorities to avoid damages of cable due to development work and regular patrolling of major routes.

- Rehabilitation and upgradation of external plant.

- Close monitoring of network operation through IT (Information Technology) enabled systems.

- Introduction of CDR (Call Detail Record) based billing, commercial and fault repair services.