

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:173

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2005

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR COMPANIES IN TELECOM SECTOR

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

- (a) whether private as well as public sector companies are operating in telecom sector;
- (b) if so, the names of companies which have been operating in this sector during 2005;
- (c) the number of subscribers of private and public sector companies as on July 2005; and;
- (d) the time since when the public sector companies are operating in this sector and the period by which the public sector companies are older than the private sector companies in terms of their operations in this sector?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The requisite information is given in Annexures- A and Annexure-B.

(c) & (d) As on 31st July 2005 the number of subscribers of private operators was 527.47 lakhs and of Public Sector companies was 532.27 lakhs. The Public Sector undertakings Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) have been in operation since 1st April 1986 and 1st October 2000 respectively. Private participation in the telecom sector has been allowed with the announcement of National Telecom Policy-1994.

Annexure-A

List of CMTS Licensees

Sl. No.	Name of Licensee (Metro City/ Telecom Circle)	Service Area start of initial service	Date of
1	Aircel Digilink India Ltd.	Haryana	25.07.1997
2	Aircel Digilink India Ltd.	Rajasthan	26.08.1997
3	Aircel Digilink India Ltd.	UP(E)	11.06.1997
4	Aircel Ltd.	Tamilnadu	08.04.1999
5	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	30.10.2002
6	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	A,N & West Bengal	25.10.2002
7	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Assam	29.02.2004
8	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Bihar	26.01.2001
9	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	CHENNAI	04.04.2003
10	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Gujarat	22.10.2002
11	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Haryana	28.10.2002
12	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	24.10.2002
13	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	J & K	20.08.2003
14	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Karnataka	21.10.2002
15	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Kerala	23.10.2002

16	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	KOLKATA	22.11.2001
17	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	20.10.2002
18	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Maharashtra	21.10.2002
19	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	North East	27.10.2003
20	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Orissa	31.10.2002
21	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Punjab	27.10.2002
22	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Rajasthan	20.10.2002
23	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Tamilnadu	26.07.2002
24	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	UP (E)	19.10.2002
25	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	UP (W)	29.10.2002
26	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	CHENNAI	05.10.1995
27	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	Gujarat	05.08.2002
28	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	Haryana	19.06.2002
29	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	21.01.1997
30	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	Kerala	04.07.2002
31	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	KOLKATA	22.08.1995
32	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	17.06.2002
33	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	Maharashtra	22.07.2002
34	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	MUMBAI	24.07.2002
35	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	Tamilnadu	03.07.2002
36	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	UP (W)	10.06.2002
37	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	DELHI	27.9.1995
38	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	20.12.1996
39	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	Karnataka	21.04.1997
40	@ Bharti Cellular Ltd.	Punjab	08.02.2002
41	BPL Mobile Cellular Ltd.	Kerala	29.01.1999
42	BPL Mobile Cellular Ltd.	Maharashtra	22.01.1999
43	BPL Mobile Cellular Ltd.	Tamilnadu	07.04.1999
44	BPL Mobile Communication Ltd.	MUMBAI	29.09.1999
45	BTA Cellcom Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	24.01.1999
46	Escorts Telecommunications Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	24.06.2000
47	Escorts Telecommunications Ltd.	Rajasthan	24.06.2000
48	Escorts Telecommunications Ltd.	UP (E)	24.06.2000
49	Idea Mobile Communications Ltd.	Haryana	19.12.1999
50	Idea Mobile Communications Ltd.	Kerala	03.01.1999
51	Idea Mobile Communications Ltd.	UP (W)	24.01.1999
52	Fascel Ltd.	Gujarat	21.01.1999
53	Bharti Hexacom Ltd.	North East	30.03.2000
54	Bharti Hexacom Ltd.	Rajasthan	04.06.1999
55	Hutchinson Telecom East Ltd.	KOLKATA	28.09.1999
56	Hutchison Essar South Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	24.06.2000
57	Hutchison Essar South Ltd.	CHENNAI	26.06.2000
58	Hutchison Essar South Ltd.	Karnataka	19.06.2000
59	Hutchison Essar South Ltd.	Punjab	15.07.2000
60	Hutchison Essar Mobile Services Ltd.	DELHI	20.10.1999
61	Hutchison Max Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	MUMBAI	29.10.1999
62	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	11.12.1999
63	Idea Cellular Ltd.	DELHI	07.11.2000
64	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Gujarat	05.03.1999
65	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Maharashtra	21.01.1999
66	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.	DELHI	07.02.2000
67	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.	MUMBAI	27.02.2000
68	Reliable Internet Services Ltd.	KOLKATA	21.03.2000
69	@ Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	A, N & West	24.10.1999
70	@ Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Bihar	20.11.1999
71	@ Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	01.05.1999
72	@ Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	05.01.1999
73	@ Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	North East	11.11.1999
74	@ Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Orissa	23.09.1999
75	@ Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Assam	1.12.1999
76	Aircel Cellular Limited	CHENNAI	21.05.1999
78	@ Spice Communications Ltd.	Punjab	04.06.1999

@These CMTS Licensees have already migrated to Unified Access Services Licence (UASL)

Annexure-B

List of Licences issued to Private Basic Service Operators

Name of Company	Service Areas	Date of Signing of Licence Agreement (Basic)	Effective Date
M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd. Chennai@	Tamil Nadu	31.08.2001	31.08.2001
	Karnataka	31.08.2001	31.08.2001
	Andhra Pradesh #	04.11.1997	30.09.1997
	Gujarat	31.08.2001	31.08.2001
	Delhi	31.08.2001	31.08.2001
M/s Bharti Telenet Ltd. (now Bharti Infotel Ltd.)	Madhya Pradesh #	28.02.1997	30.09.1997
	Haryana	08.10.2001	08.10.2001
	Delhi	29.10.2001	29.10.2001
	Tamil Nadu	29.10.2001	31.08.2001
	Karnataka	29.10.2001	31.08.2001
M/s Shyam Telelink Ltd.	Rajasthan #	04.03.1998	04.03.1998
M/s Tata Teleservices (Maharashtra) Ltd. Mumbai@	Maharashtra #	30.09.1997	30.09.1997
M/s HFCL Infotel Ltd.	Punjab #	07.11.1997	30.09.1997
M/s Reliance Telecom Ltd. (now Reliance Infocomm Ltd.)	Gujarat #	18.03.1997	30.09.1997
M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	Karnataka	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	Maharashtra	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	Mumbai@		
	Punjab	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	Rajasthan	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	Orissa	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	Madhya Pradesh	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	Tamil Nadu	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	Chennai@		
	Bihar	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	West Bengal	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	Kolkata@	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	Uttar Pradesh (East)	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	Himachal Pradesh	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	Uttar Pradesh (West)	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	Haryana	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	A&N	20.07.2001	20.07.2001
	Delhi	20.07.2001	20.07.2001

Licences issued in 1997-98 with roll out obligations of DELs and VPTs. Rest licences issued in 2001 with roll out conditions of setting up of POPs in SDCAs.

@New UASL Licences

\$ 26 Existing Basic Service Licences migrated to Unified Access Service Licence regime. Basic Licence of A&N Service Area is being treated as a part of West Bengal Licence. Mumbai, Chennai & Kolkata are treated as separate licenses from Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu & Chennai respectively under the new UASL licence regime. All UASL licences are effective from 14th Nov. 2003 except the licence of West Bengal, which is effective from 21st Nov. 2003.

\$ Old Basic Service licences (Haryana, Delhi, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu) of M/s Bharti Infotel Ltd. have not been migrated to UASL and the same have been surrendered by the company.