

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3263  
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2005  
SURRENDER OF LANDLINE CONNECTIONS  
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

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

- (a) whether a large number of landline telephone users have surrendered their phones;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of landline telephones surrendered during the last three years and the current year till date, Year-wise;
- (d) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) propose to provide more inbuilt facilities in the landline instruments in view of the stiff competition from the private operators; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) The net growth in landline telephony has been affected due to reasons such as preference of customers towards wireless services due to which surrenders in landline phones are being observed over the last few years.

(c) The number of landline telephones surrendered during the last three years and current year till 31.10.2005 are given as under:-

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	upto 31.10.2005
BSNL	1793536	3260125	3417052		2302324
MTNL	171238	377242	292438		157530

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) BSNL is modernising its network to provide SMS facility on landline instruments. BSNL and MTNL have started providing Broadband services like Voice and Internet on landline. MTNL has also planned to add video to it. Other value added service like call waiting, call forwarding, CLIP are also being provided on landline in both BSNL and MTNL.