

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4278
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2005
STARTING OF SERVICE BY PRIVATE OPERATORS
Masood Shri Rasheed

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

- (a) whether the Government has directed the private operators to start 197 service on the lines of MTNL and BSNL;
- (b) if so, the time by which the said service is likely to be started by the private operators;
- (c) if not, the reasons thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has received any direction from TRAI in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, as per Unified Access Service Licence (UASL) `the licensee shall provide independently or through mutually agreed commercial arrangements with other Service Providers all public utility services including TOLL FREE services such as Police, Fire, Ambulance, Railways/Road/Air, Accident Enquiry, Police Control, Disaster Management etc`.
- (d) & (e) No, Sir. However, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has given its recommendations on publishing of Telephone Directory and Directory Enquiry Services.