

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:853
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2006
JOINT VENTURE WITH FOREIGN FIRMS
Singh Shri Uday

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

- (a) whether MTNL proposes to enter joint ventures with some foreign firms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the extent to which such joint ventures are likely to benefit the MTNL?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) MTNL, already has a joint venture, namely, United Telecom Limited (UTL) in Nepal and a wholly owned subsidiary at Mauritius, namely, Mahanagar telephones Mauritius Limited (MTML). MTNL is presently exploring the possibilities of viable overseas joint ventures in Nigeria, Sri Lanka and Chinese markets.

(c) Joint ventures enhance the footprints of MTNL and hence increase revenues and profits.