

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:871
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2006
UPGRADATION OF MOBILE SIGNALS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether private players are hiring the State owned companies' network for providing landline, WLL and mobile phone to their consumers;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is aware of the facts that the signals for mobile phones provided by the State owned telecom companies to their consumers are very weak as compared to the other private companies in the field;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether people are choosing private companies network for mobile phone as the private companies provides better services as compare to the State owned companies; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to upgrade State owned companies network to provide super class signals and to attract more consumers towards the State owned telecom companies?

Answer

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

- (a) to (c) The private operators are hiring network resources like towers, leased bandwidth from public sector units. The strength of signal for mobile phone does not have any relation with the hiring of such resources by private companies. Mainly such resources are hired for the purpose of interconnection with the network of public sector units for enabling the exchange of calls between their networks.
- (d) There has been continuous growth in the subscriber base of mobile phone of PSUs viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited indicating that people are not choosing only private company's network for mobile phones.
- (e) Public sector units are keeping pace with the technology in respect of their mobile services and the network is optimized and monitored for its performance continuously.