

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1460
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2006
REBATE TO SENIOR CITIZENS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

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

- (a) whether BSNL/MTNL is giving rebate on the installation of a new telephone and on monthly rentals to various categories of persons;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether rebate for senior citizens is given only to those of 65 years and above unlike 60 years of age in Railways;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to reduce age limit for senior citizen's rebate from 65 to 60;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Details of rebate/concession allowed by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) on a new telephone connection to various categories of persons, are given in Annexure-I and II respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (f) Presently, there is no proposal to reduce age limit from 65 to 60 years for grant of rebate to Senior Citizen. BSNL and MTNL are commercial public sector entities working under stiff competitive environment. Offering tariff concession/rebate to any group of subscribers is their commercial decision.

ANNEXURE-I

Details of rebate being given by BSNL on a New Telephone connection for various categories

Sl.No Category of persons Rebate/Concession

1. Senior citizens of the age of 65 years and above
i) Registration of one telephone under 'Non-Own Your Telephone (OYT)-special Category' which is a priority category.
ii) No registration charges.
2. Visually blind person
i) Registration of one telephone under Non-OYT-Special category.
ii) 50% rebate in normal rental charges.
iii) 50% rebate in annual advance rentals.
3. Freedom fighters/widows of freedom fighters getting pension under freedom fighter pension scheme.
i) Registration of one telephone under Non-OYT-SWS category.
ii) No registration charges.
iii) No installation charges.
iv) 50% rebate in normal rental charges.
4. Gallantry Award Winners (Defence services) under following categories:
i) Registration of one telephone under Non-OYT-Special category.
ii) No registration charges.
iii) No installation charges.
iv) No rental charges.
i) Param Vir Chakra;
ii) Ashok Chakra;

- iii) Kirti Chakra;
 iv) Vir Chakra;
 v) Shaurya Chakra.
5. War widows/Disabled i) Registration of one telephone soldiers. under Non-OYT-Special category.
 ii) No registration charges.
 iii) 50% rebate in normal rental charges.
 iv) No installation charges.
6. Awardees of i) Registration under Non-OYT-President's Police Special category. Medal for Gallantry ii) No registration charges. and widows of awardees iii) No installation charges. conferred such award iv) No rental charges. posthumously.
7. Schools, Universities 25% rebate in rentals for one non- and Colleges residential telephone connection. affiliated thereto, Polytechnics, Non-commercial research organizations and other like institutions or organizations recognized by Government.
8. Homes for the aged, 25% rebate in rentals for not infirm, spastics, exceeding two telephone handicapped, deaf-dumb- connections. mute persons, orphanages and voluntary organizations working for tribal welfare and other like institutions or organizations recognized by Government.

ANNEXURE-II

Details of rebate being given by MTNL on a New Telephone connection for various categories

S.No.	Category of persons	Rebate/Concession
1.	Senior citizens of the age of 65 years and above.	i) 25% rebate in installation charges ii) 25% rebate in rentals.
2.	Freedom fighters	i) 100% rebate in installation charges.
3.	War widows & Disabled soldiers.	ii) 50% rebate in rentals. i) 100% rebate in installation charges.
4.	Gallantry Award Winners	ii) 50% rebate in rentals. i) 100% rebate in installation charges.
5.	Blind persons	ii) 100% rebate in rentals.
6.	Schools, Universities and Colleges affiliated thereto, Polytechnics, Non-commercial research organizations and other like institutions or organizations recognized by Government.	50% rebate in rentals. and 25% rebate in rentals for not exceeding two telephone connections.
7.	Homes for the aged, infirm, spastics, handicapped, deaf-dumb-mute persons, orphanages and voluntary organizations working for tribal welfare and other like institutions or organizations recognized by Government.	25% rebate in rentals for not exceeding two telephone connections (Non-residential).