

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3915
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2006
DECLINE IN BSNL AND MTNL MOBILE SERVICES
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

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

- (a) whether the BSNL/MTNL's growth in mobile telephone is declining;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the mobile telephone growth of both the BSNL/the MTNL and their efficiency facing at present a stiff competition from private operators?

Answer

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

- (a) No, Sir. BSNL and MTNL are witnessing a high growth rate in mobile connections as seen from the following details:

As on Cellular mobile connections Combined market share
BSNL MTNL of BSNL + MTNL

| | | | |
|------------|----------|---------|--------|
| 31-03-2004 | 5254117 | 360550 | 21.46% |
| 31-03-2005 | 9447357 | 881696 | 25.17% |
| 31-03-2006 | 17163761 | 1941155 | 27.67% |

- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) BSNL and MTNL have been continuously augmenting their network in terms of coverage and capacity. Additional features like voice mail service, itemized bill, closed user group, help line/call center etc. to keep in pace with evolution of technology and to provide good service to the customers.