

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:311
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2006
LOSSES IN TELEGRAPH SERVICE OF BSNL
Meghwal Shri Kailash

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

- (a) whether the telegraph service of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited is incurring losses continuously;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the importance of telegraph service has reduced due to expansion of telephone network and increased use of mobile phones, internet, e-mail and fax;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to accommodate surplus employees of telegraph service in other departments; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to increased utility of Communications at highly competitive rates through telephone, fax, e-mail, internet and mobile phones with SMS facility, usage of telegraph facility has been constantly declining whereas its operational cost is high. Thus, the telegraph service is incurring losses continuously. Details are given in Annexure-I and II.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) & (e) Sir, the officials of Telegraph Service are being redeployed not in other departments but in other sections of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to reduce losses of BSNL.

Annexure-I

TRAFFIC TREND SINCE 1992-93

Year Telegram % Decrease
`A` Booking Yearly w.r.
(In lakh) to previous
year

1991-1992	651	
1992-1993	646	0.76
1993-1994	606	6.19
1994-1995	576	4.95
1995-1996	566	1.73
1996-1997	539	4.77
1997-1998	512	5.00
1998-1999	442	13.67
1999-2000	404	8.59
2000-2001	344	14.85
2001-2002	283	17.73
2002-2003	237	16.25
2003-2004	210	11.39
2004-2005	151	28.00

Annexure-II

Computation of Losses and Average revenue and expenditure per telegrams

S1. 2001-2002 2002-2003 2003-2004
No.

1. No. of telegram booked	2.83 crores	2.37 crores	2.10 crores
2. Revenue crores	44.56 crores	40.58 crores	35.17 crores
3. Expenditure crores	327.79 crores	383.17 crores	294.17 crores
4. %age loss	635.62%	844.23%	736.42%
5. Average revenue per telegram	Rs. 15.74	Rs. 17.12	Rs.16.75
6. Average expenditure per telegram	Rs. 115/-	Rs. 161/-	Rs. 140/-

Note:-

(i) The Tariff for non-press telegrams has not been revised since 1983.

(ii) The Tariff for Press Telegrams has not been revised since 1965.

(iii) Telegram is cross subsidized.