

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3061  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2006  
MERGER OF MTNL AND BSNL .  
Nedurumalli Janardhana Reddy Shri

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

- (a) Whether the Government proposes to merge the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to provide uniform and better telephone service throughout the country under a single telephone authority;
- (b) If so, the present position in this regard and the time by which the merger is likely to be effected; and
- (c) The extent to which the telecom services are likely to improve and become cheaper for the customers?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) The Government has appointed a consortium of consultants led by M/s ICICI Securities to advise and aid the Government in restructuring of MTNL and BSNL so as to achieve higher synergies, improve the competitive position on both the PSUs and enhance the value for all the stakeholders. The report submitted by the consultants is under consideration of the Government.