

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3168
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2006
OVERCHARGING OF RENTALS BY BSNL .
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) The reasons for connecting the municipality to the telephone exchange by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. for the realisation of rentals;
- (b) Whether this has led to an increase in the rentals to be paid by the consumers;
- (c) If so, whether any complaints have been lodged in this regard;
- (d) If so, whether the Government is reconsidering the issue of overcharging from the consumers; and
- (e) If so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) No new orders have been issued by BSNL for connecting the Municipality to the Telephone exchange. Rentals are to be fixed based on exchange system capacity of Short Distance Charging Area as prescribed by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India in the Telecommunication Tariff Order, 1999.
- (b) BSNL has recently reduced rental of fixed line service from Rs.250 per month to Rs.180 per month and from Rs.210 per month to Rs.150 per month. Hence the question of increase in rental does not arise.
- (c) No specific complaint, to the issue raised, has been received.
- (d) & (e) Do not arise in view of (c) above.