

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2064

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007

MOBILE NUMBER PORTABILITY

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

(a) whether the recommendations of TRAI regarding implementation of mobile number portability is being opposed by large mobile operators such as BSNL, Bharti and Hutch etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the progress made so far by the Government for implementation of TRAI's recommendation on Mobile Number Portability (MNP)?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) During the consultation process, prior to issue of the Recommendations by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on Mobile Number Portability (MNP), some of the stakeholders have stated that:

(i) In most of the countries the Mobile Number Portability was introduced at a time when the tele-density was around 25 to 30%.

(ii) Most of the mobile operators are at present involved in rolling out of their network in the semi urban/rural areas and hence it is not the right time to introduce Mobile Number Portability as they will have to incur heavy expenditure on upgradation of their network/switches for Mobile Number portability.

(iii) There is enough competition in all the license areas and hence the introduction of Mobile Number Portability will not yield major benefit to the customer.

(c) As on date, no decision has been take in the matter.