

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:15
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2014
IMPROVEMENT IN MOBILE NETWORK
Simha Shri Prathap

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

- (a) the number of total mobile connections in the country at present, State-wise;
- (b) whether the number of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited(MTNL) consumer connections are very less out of total mobile connections in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the disturbance in networking of BSNL and MTNL mobile connections has been occurring frequently and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has been making any efforts to improve the signal system of these mobile networks; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (c) Details of mobile connections are maintained service area wise by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India(TRAI). The details of number of total mobile connections in the country service area-wise and mobile connections of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) are given in Annexure.

(d) to (f) Quality of Service (QoS) parameters are prescribed by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). While BSNL and MTNL meet the benchmark parameters in general, the services of BSNL and MTNL are below the benchmark levels for certain parameters in certain areas. The deficiencies in QoS parameters are on account of network performance, customer service delivery, congestion, inadequate network coverage etc.

BSNL and MTNL are actively engaged in preparing a revival plan for improvement in quality of services, addressing legacy issues and expansion of network coverage.

BSNL and MTNL have reported that they are augmenting their mobile network progressively to enhance coverage capacity through installation of 24765 and 3520 Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) respectively for 2G and 3G services in their Licensed Service Areas (LSAs) including rural and urban areas. They are also optimizing their network continuously for improvement in performance.

Department of Telecommunications (DoT) also reviews the performance of BSNL periodically.