

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4797

ANSWERED ON:24.04.2002

GARUDA CELLULAR PHONE SERVICE

A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;CHANDRA NATH SINGH;GADDE RAMAMOCHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI;NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY;RAMSHETH THAKUR;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK;SHYAMA SINGH

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

- (a) the capacity of the telephone exchange installed by MTNL for Garuda Telephone service based on CDMA technique in National Capital Territory of Delhi, present;
- (b) whether MTNL's cellular phone service 'Garuda' have been found to be unsuccessful as reported in the Hindu dated March 28, 2002
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the private cellular phone companies are providing much better and economical services than MTNL;
- (e) if so the facts thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the MTNL to improve the services by adopting latest technologies in its cellular phone services ?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

- (a) The total installed capacity for Garuda Telephone on CDMA technology in National Capital Territory is 20, 000 lines.
- (b) No, Sir. MTNL has received very good response on Garuda service.
- (c) to (e): Does not arise in view of (b) above.
- (f) MTNL's cellular phone service GSM Technology under brand name Dolphin which is at par with the best technology available.