

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4763
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2002
BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED
ANANDRAO ADSUL;RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH;SUBODH MOHITE

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

- (a) whether the private sector operators of basic telephone services have requested the Government to make available to them the infrastructure available with the BSNL, for providing Village Public Telephone (VPT);
- (b) if so, the details of the other requests made by the private operators;
- (c) whether the Government are considering these demands; and
- (d) if so, the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The private operators have requested for reduction in tariff for leased lines, sharing of infrastructure at concessional rate, handing over of traffic at other locations.
- (c) & (d) BSNL has not agreed to such a request. However, the operators are free to enter into mutually agreed arrangements in respect of sharing of infrastructure.