

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6416  
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2003  
OUTSTANDING DUES OF MTNL AND BSNL  
MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT

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

(a) the total outstanding dues of MTNL and BSNL towards sitting MPs and Ex MPs present and former Union Ministers as on March 31, 2003 and

(b) the steps being taken by the Union Government to recover the outstanding dues?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) The total outstanding dues of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited towards sitting MPs and Ex MPs as on 31.3.2003 is Rs. 12.34 crores. Separate information about outstanding dues against Union Ministers is not maintained because such telephone are provided in the name of the concerned Ministries/Departments.

(b) After corporatization of the operational arm of the Government w.e.f. 1.10.2000, the Govt. no longer handles operations, including the recovery of outstanding dues. Now, it is Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, which are responsible for recovery of these dues. For recovery of the outstanding dues, all necessary action, as indicated below, is taken by MTNL and BSNL.

1. The defaulter telephones are disconnected when the dues continued to be unpaid.
2. High power Committees and Liquidation Boards have been set up to facilitate liquidation of dues.
3. Targets for liquidation of outstanding are set and performance monitored against them each year.
4. The collection efficiency is monitored each month.
5. Outstanding Pursuit Cells are functioning at Head quarter level and also at Circle level.
6. Where necessary, after disconnection of telephone, legal action is also initiated for recovery of the dues.
- 7 Disputed cases are referred to Arbitrators under the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.