

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6424
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2003
OUTSTANDING DUES OF MTNL AND BSNL
C. SREENVAASAN

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

- (a) the status of outstanding dues of MTNL and BSNL as on 30th April, 2003, State-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that big corporate houses and companies have also owe a huge amount to MTNL and BSNL;
- (c) if so, the details of such companies/corporations, State-wise; and
- (d) the action taken against these defaulters and other defaulters by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) Reports have been called for and will be laid on the Table of the House.
- (b)&(c): The two public sector telephone providers(MTNL and BSNL) maintain information on the arrears on telephone dues telephone number-wise, and not company-wise.
- (d) After formation of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, the Government no longer provides telecom services. Recoveries of outstanding dues are a continuous process, and the steps taken by BSNL and MTNL to recover the arrears are:-
 1. The defaulter telephones are disconnected when the dues are not paid.
 2. Where necessary, after disconnection of telephone, legal action is also initiated for recovery of the dues.
 3. Disputed cases are referred to Arbitrators under Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.
 4. High power Committees and Liquidation Boards have been set up to facilitate liquidation of dues.
 5. Targets for liquidation of outstanding are set and performance monitored against them each year.
 6. The collection efficiency is monitored each month.
 - 7 Outstanding Pursuit Cells are functioning at Head quarter level and also at Circle level.