

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2052
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004
CELLONE SERVICE
Deora Shri Milind Murlu

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

- (a) whether the BSNL has started post paid mobile telephony under the brand name `Cellone` with effect from October, 2000, in West Bengal Telecom Centre;
- (b) if so, the amount of outstanding telephone revenue accumulated and could not be realized till August, 2003;
- (c) the reasons for the same and the steps taken to recover this amount; and
- (d) the action taken against the guilty officials?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a) Post-paid telephony under the brand name `CellOne` was started with effect from October, 2002.
- (b) As on August, 2003, the amount of outstanding was Rs. 4.07 crores. An amount of Rs. 1.01 crores out of the above Rs. 4.07 crores has since been realized by June, 2004. As on June, 2004, an amount of Rs. 3.06 crores is lying outstanding against the bills issued upto August, 2003.
- (c) Outstanding was due to non-payment by some defaulters. All steps have been taken to recover the outstanding, including issuance of legal notice, and, handing over the case to CBI for investigation against unscrupulous elements who have misused this facility.
- (d) The matter is under investigation.