

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3032  
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2004  
INCREASE IN DEMAND OF CELL PHONES  
Dubey Shri Chandra Shekhar;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether due to an increase in the demand of Cell Phones, the demand of land line telephones has considerably come down;
- (b) if so, the percentage of decrease in the demand of land line telephones in the country during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed the working of Indian Telephone Industries in different States;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken by the Government to make maximum utilization of manpower in it;
- (e) the comparative data of income of BSNL, MTNL and Videsh Sanchar Nigam through mobile service and fixed telephone service during the last two years; and
- (f) the details of the policy formulated by the Government to boost the declining popularity of land line service?

**Answer**

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of demand of landline telephones in BSNL and MTNL during the last three years is as under:

Year	BSNL	MTNL	
		Delhi	Mumbai
	%age change in demand over the previous Year		
2001-02	12.50%	(-) 3.04%	3.55%
2002-03	6.80%	(-) 16.62%	0.61%
2003-04	(-) 0.09%	(-) 5.67%	(-) 1.54%

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. The Government has been reviewing performance of Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) regularly. The Government has announced a revival package of Rs. 508 crore for the revival of ITI in the Budget Session 2004-05 of the Parliament. BSNL has placed purchase order for one million line of GSM equipment on ITI.

(e) The details of income of BSNL and MTNL through Mobile services and Fixed telephone service during the last two years are as under:

(Figures in crores of rupees)

BSNL	2002-03	2003-04
Mobile	192.03	2066.76

Services		
Fixed	22102.30	24101.51
Telephones		

TOTAL:	22294.33	26168.29
--------	----------	----------

# = BSNL Mobile services started during October, 2002.

(Figures in crores of rupees)

MTNL	2002-03	2003-04
------	---------	---------

Mobile	169.30	186.98
Services		
Fixed	5637.22	6182.61
Telephones		

TOTAL:	5806.52	6369.59
--------	---------	---------

Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd., (VSNL) does not provide landline, Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) or Mobile Services to customers.

(f) Choice of telephone service is left to consumers. The Government is following the policy of technology neutrality.