

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1143

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2005

MERGER OF MTNL AND BSNL

Chitthan Shri N.S.V.;Nayak Shri Ananta;Sethi Shri Arjun Charan

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken a decision to merge the MTNL with the BSNL;
- (b) if so, the details of the terms and conditions thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) Sir, the Government has been considering different options for restructuring MTNL and BSNL with the objective of bringing higher synergy in their operations. A consortium of consultants was appointed to aid and assist the Government in this exercise. The consultants have submitted their recommendations after examining several alternatives of restructuring including merger of MTNL with BSNL. Considering complexity of the issues involved in the restructuring exercise, the Government is carefully weighing all options before taking a decision so that interest of all the stake holders are protected and the ultimate objectives of restructuring exercise are met.