GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:340 ANSWERED ON:26.07.2006 ONE INDIA SCHEME Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

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

- (a) whether the Government is providing 'One India Scheme' to domestic and individual connections throughout the country under Plan-95:
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether the same scheme is being extended to the Coins Collecting Box (C.C.B.) connections;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether any concessions or exemptions on deposit etc., are given to physically challenged and widows who are having the Coins Collecting Box (C.C.B.) connections; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) are not providing `One India Scheme` under Plan-95. However, the two PSUs have introduced `One India Plan` w.e.f. 1.3.2006 as an alternate tariff plan in addition to other ongoing plans. Important features of One India Plan are as follows:
- (i) Under this plan, landline and fixed WLL customers of BSNL and MTNL can call anywhere in the country on the same network at the rate of Re.1/- per minute for inter circle calls and Re.1/- for 3 minutes for local and intra circle calls upto 50 Kms. On other networks, such calls shall be charged uniformly at Re-1/- per minute.
- (ii) Similarly alternate tariff for cellular subscribers for both post paid and prepaid customers have been offered under One India Scheme.
- (iii) MTNL subscribers of landline and fixed WLL services can call from Delhi to BSNL's fixed line in NCR region at Re. 1/- for 3 minutes. Recently '95' level dialing has been introduced by MTNL for landline to landline phones between Delhi and Mumbai at tariff rate of Re.1.20/- for 3 minutes.
- (c) to (e) One India Scheme is not extended to CCBs. In this scheme, a fixed charge in the form of rentals is taken. Since no rental charge is possible in PCOs, therefore, this scheme is not implemented in respect of CCB PCOs.
- (f) & (g) Yes, Sir. Physically handicapped persons are exempted from providing Security Deposit for CCB connection. No such concession is available for widows.