

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:331
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2008
IMPROVEMENT IN BROADBAND SERVICES
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

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

- (a) the number of lines of broadband equipments procured by the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) during 2006-07 and 2007-08 for their subscribers in the country;
- (b) whether the broadband scheme offered by the (MTNL) has drawn poor response as compared to the similar schemes offered by other service providers in the country;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has made any survey to assess the nature of problems being faced by subscribers of the broadband service in the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the action taken/being taken by the MTNL to improve the broadband services in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 331 FOR 22ND DECEMBER, 2008 REGARDING "IMPROVEMENT IN BROADBAND SERVICES".

(a) The details of broadband lines procured by the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) during 2006-07 and 2007-08 for their subscribers in Delhi and Mumbai are as under:

Year	Delhi	Mumbai	Total
------	-------	--------	-------

2006-07	Nil	86,000	86,000
---------	-----	--------	--------

2007-08	1,63,000	75,000	2,38,000
---------	----------	--------	----------

(b) & (c) No Sir. MTNL is the third largest operator in terms of number of broadband connections in the country despite the fact that MTNL operates only in Delhi & Mumbai.

(d) & (e) No specific survey has been conducted for broadband services. However, meetings with the service providers are being conducted to ensure smooth functioning of the services.

(f) The actions taken/being taken by MTNL to improve the broadband services inter-alia are as under:

Redundant paths have been provided in the local network to avoid complete breakdown of the services

International bandwidth has been enhanced from time to time to improve Internet Services

Call Centre positions are being increased to facilitate easier access by the customers for various requirements of broadband services

Broadband capacity is being added to meet growing demand including core network

Land line network is improved by way of replacing Paper Core Unarmed Telephone (PCUT) cables, damaged drop wire etc.

Value added services like Internet Protocol TV (IPTV), Voice on Internet Protocol (VOIP) are being provided to broadband customers