

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4341
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2010
CONCESSIONS TO OWNERS OF PCOS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the registration fees and the bi-monthly rentals fixed for providing telecom facilities in metros, urban and rural areas by the Department of Telecom in the country;
- (b) whether the concessions to be given to the owners of PCOs also vary in the said areas;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) are not implementing the facilities being provided for rural areas in the country; and
- (e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to discontinue the discrimination against rural subscribers?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

(a) Tariffs for telecom services in the country are governed by the framework laid down in the Telecommunication Tariff Order (TTO), 1999 as amended from time to time. The tariff ceilings prescribed by TRAI under Standard Tariff Plan (STP) for fixed line services in rural areas are as follows:-

Item Tariff

Monthly rental (No of lines)	Exchange capacity (No of lines)	For senior citizen	Others
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Rs Rs

Upto 999	70	70	
1,000 to 29,999	120	120	
30,000 to 99,999	180	200	
1 lakh and above	250	280	

Tariff per First 300 mcus Rs 0.80
(Metered call unit) except for free calls

Metered call in excess Rs 1.20
of 300 metered calls

Free calls 50

For Metro areas of Delhi & Mumbai Registration fee for providing telephone is Rs. 500/-. Fixed Bi-monthly rental is depending upon the tariff plan opted for normal Landline services, the details of tariff plan for MTNL Delhi and MTNL Mumbai are given at Annexure-I & Annexure-II respectively.

Fixed Monthly Charges for Metros (except Delhi & Mumbai) & urban areas as fixed by BSNL are as under:

A. General Package:

Particulars General Plan (Fixed Monthly Charges)

Exchange System Capacity Urban

Less than 1000 lines. Rs. 120

1000 lines to < 30000 lines. Rs. 120

30000 lines to < 100000 lines. Rs. 180

100000 lines & above Rs. 180

Free Calls (MCU) 50

B. Alternative Packages:

Particular	BSNL Economy Plus	BSNL Special India	BSN Special	BSNL Super	BSNL Premium	BSNL One	BSNL
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Less than 30000 lines	Rs. 300	Rs. 425	Rs. 975	Rs. 1450	Rs. 2450	Rs. 180	
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>= 30000 lines	Rs. 300	Rs. 425	Rs. 975	Rs. 1450	Rs. 2450	Rs. 180	
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Free Calls (MCU)	225	400	1000	1500	3000	50	
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Tariffs of mobile telephones are under forbearance & operators are free to fix their rates from time to time. Rates of mobile telephony

are very low in India in view of intense competition in the sector.

(b) & (c) The PCO business is based on commercial arrangement between the concerned Service provider and its franchisees. No Fixed Monthly Charges is being charged by BSNL from the PCO franchisees. However, Monthly Minimum Guarantee is being charged from the PCO franchisee which varies in Urban and Rural areas.

Minimum Guarantee for Landline/WLL PCO:

Particular	Rural	Urban
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VPT without STD Facility	Nil	Nil
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VPT with STD /ISD Facility	Nil	Nil
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Local/STD/ISD PCO's Rs. 80/- Rs. 200/-

Exclusive of Service Tax and Edu. Cess, which will be charged extra at applicable rates.

For Local VPTs:

MRP is Re 1/- per MCU and defined rate is 50 Paise per MCU. No Service Tax is leviable on local calls made from Local VPTs.

MTNL: The minimum guarantee amount for PCOs by MTNL Mumbai w.e.f 1.6.2010 is given below:

S. No	Type of PCO	Minimum Guarantee Amount in Rs. (Monthly)
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1.	Local PCO	150/-
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2.	HPCO	100/-
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3.	STD/ISD PCO	250/-
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4.	All India CCB PCO	300/-
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(d) MTNL service area is all urban. Hence there is no rural areas schemes under MTNL

(e) Not applicable in view of (d) above.