

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:948

ANSWERED ON:15.11.2010

NEW SCHEMES BY BSNL

Pandey Saroj;Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

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

- (a) whether any new scheme has been introduced by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL)/Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to counter the extremely strong competition being posed by various private telecom operators in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited(MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited(BSNL) have introduced, from time to time, various new schemes considering the need of customers and prevailing market conditions.

Recently, BSNL has launched a new scheme in mobile called 'PYARI JODI' which inter-alia includes unlimited free local call facility for customer to one BSNL Landline or WLL (Fixed/Limited Mobility) number in his/her own name. Some of the recent initiatives taken by MTNL for meeting the competition inter- alia include reduced tariff for International long distance , waiver of 3G activation charges to all existing 2G customers, provision of 3G to all customers and bundling of Dolphin/ Trump (GSM Postpaid/ Prepaid) with 3G MTNL Data Card. MTNL has recently launched ' Power Connect' in Prepaid high speed Internet and 'One for all' in Trump (GSM Prepaid).

(c) & (d) Do not arise in view of (a) & (b) above.