GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6590
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2012
BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Internet connections provided in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the number of internet connections provided by BSNL and MTNL in their respective service areas;

(c) whether the Internet services provided by these PSUs breaks down frequently;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard:

(e) whether there are systemic deficiencies in planning, utilization of installed capacity and marketing of rural broadband which resulted in heavy loss to exchequer; and

(f) if so. the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHR1 MILIND DEORA)

(a) & (b) The State-wise details for Broadband and Internet Subscribers as on Dec.2011 including MTNL and BSNL, is given in Annexure-1.

(c) & (d) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had laid down the Quality of Service (QoS) standards for dial-up Internet access through the regulation on QoS of Dial-up and Leased Line Internet Access Service in December, 2001. These regulations contain the following parameters for assessing service accessibility:

(i) Time to Access (Benchmark 30 Second).

(ii) Probability of accessing the ISP node:

a. 1sl attempt (Benchmark 80%)

b. 2nd attempt (Benchmark 90 %)

c. 3rd attempt (Benchmark 99 %)

(iii) ISP node unavailability in a month (Benchmark 30 minutes)

As per the performance monitoring report submitted by BSNL and MTNL for the quarter ending December, 2011, it is seen that BSNL and MTNL are meeting the benchmark for the above parameters.

TRAI had laid down the Quality of Service standards for Broadband Service through the Quality of Service for Broadband Service Regulations, 2006. One of the quality of service parameter prescribed in these regulations is `Service Availability/Uptime`. This parameter measures the total downtime of the network for all users, including the LAN (Local Area Network) Switches, Routers, Servers, e-mail facilities etc at ISP (Internet Service Protocol) Node and connectivity to upstream service providers over a period of one quarter, As per the performance monitoring report submitted by BSNL and MTNL for the quarter ending December, 2011, it is seen that BSNL and MTNL are meeting the benchmark for the above parameter.

(e)& (f) No Madam, Under Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), Rural Wireline Broadband Scheme against a target to provide 8,88,832 wire-line Broadband connections to individual users and Government Institutions by 2014, a total of 3,54,595 broadband connections have been provided till February, 2012.