

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1669
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2012
LANDLINE TELEPHONES
Gulshan Smt. Paramjit Kaur

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to reduce the monthly rent for landline telephones of BSNL and MTNL keeping in view the shrinking/reducing demand as well as high rate disconnection of the fixed landline telephones by the subscribers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the free local calls to the landline phone subscribers are being reduced every year and the rates of local call are not reduced on the line of ISD/STD which are reduced drastically;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the action taken by both the PSUs to attract more landline customers by introducing attractive rates/monthly rental?

Answer

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

- (a)&(b) At present, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) have no proposal to reduce the monthly rent for landline telephone.
- (e) No Madam.
- (d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.
- (e) The telecom sector is highly competitive. BSNL / MTNL review their tariff plans as per techno-commercial considerations based on competition and market forces to retain/increase their customer base.