

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1431

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2013

CELL PHONE COMPANIES OPERATING IN THE COUNTRY

Rana Shri Jagdish Singh

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

- (a) the number of private cell phone companies operating in the country as on date;
- (b) the norms for launching new telecom companies;
- (c) whether private cell phone companies are offering attractive schemes to the subscribers than the BSNL and MTNL which have an adverse impact on the market share of these PSUs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) There are 25 private Cell phone companies operating in the country as on date.
- (b) At present 74% Foreign Direct Investment(FDI) is permitted for launching Telecom Companies for services & 100 % FDI is permitted for launching Infrastructure Provider (IP-I) companies.
- (c) & (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.