

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1463

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2013

ALTERNATIVE SERVICES IN PLACE OF TELEGRAPH SERVICE

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

- (a) the details of agencies that had been utilizing telegraphic service of postal department;
- (b) whether the Government has provided any alternative service in place of telegram service to cater the needs of various military, para military personnels and people of far-flung villages;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, whether the Government proposes to continue the telegram service;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether some of the telegrams sent on last day of closing of service have not reached to their destination; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. (SMT.) KILLI KRUPARANI)

- (a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) was offering telegraph services in the country. The telegraph services were being utilized by general public and Government.
- (b) to (e) Many alternative modes of communication such as basic telephone, mobile telephones, broadband, e-mail, SMS and e-post are now easily available which are more economical, faster and more reliable in comparison to telegraph services. The declining attraction of telegraph services evidenced by its reduced usage over the year indicate the shift to alternative modes of communication. The telegraph services have already been discontinued w.e.f. 15.7.2013.
- (f) & (g) BSNL has informed that all telegrams booked on last day of closing of service have been transmitted to their destinations and BSNL has received no complaint about non-delivery of telegrams.