

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2792
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2009
MOBILE NUMBER PORTABILITY
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has started Mobile Number Portability (MNP) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the salient features;
- (c) whether this service will be provided only in Metro cities and in Service Areas of Category 'A' in the country;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefore; and
- (e) the time by which it will be implemented all over the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

(a) to (e) Madam, the Government has decided to introduce Mobile Number Portability (MNP) in the country. MNP allows subscribers to retain their existing telephone number in the same service area when they switch from one access service provider to another irrespective of mobile technology or from one technology to another of the same or any other access service provider. Necessary Licence Agreements for MNP Services have been signed in April 2009. In the first phase, MNP is likely to be implemented by 31st December 2009 in Metro cities and Category 'A' Service Areas (Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu including Chennai, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka Service Areas) and in the rest of the country thereafter by March 2010.