

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3934
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2009
DAMAGES OF TELEPHONE CABLES
Balram Shri P.

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

- (a) whether there has been an increase in the cases of damages of telephone cables of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL)/Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the losses incurred in this regard during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has inquired into the matter;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) In case of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited there is no spurt in the number of incidence of damages of telephone cables. In case of MTNL, total incidence of cable damage during this period is 72567.
- (b) Total loss incurred in MTNL is Rs.126,93,44,104. The details of loss year-wise & State-wise are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.
- (c) & (d) The main reason for damages to cables is the massive infrastructure development and digging activities carried by various utility services in the country.
- (e) Various steps have been taken/being taken to reduce the damage of cables. Details are given in the Annexure.