

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:7
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2014
CITIZENS SERVICES BY MTNL AND BSNL
Venugopal Dr. Ponnusamy

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

- (a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) have any proposal to float a joint venture company for delivering citizens' services in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof;
- (c) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) is also keen to sell 50 per cent stake in its subsidiary Millennium Telecom Limited to BSNL;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to develop multi-lingual applications and content relevant for delivering citizens' services across the health, education, banking and social services verticals?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 7 FOR 24TH NOVEMBER, 2014 REGARDING "CITIZENS' SERVICES BY MTNL AND BSNL".

(a) & (b) No Madam.

(c) & (d) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has informed that it has sent a proposal to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for using Millennium Telecom Limited (MTL) as a platform to create Pan India synergy by utilizing resources of both MTNL and BSNL in delivery of ICT (Information & Communications Technology) solutions and for the purpose offered 50% partnership stake in MTL.

(e) Government is supporting Technology Development in Indian Language (TDIL) Programme to carry out Research and Development in developing cutting edge language technologies and standards.

Under this Programme a project titled "National Roll Out Plan" is being executed through C-DAC (Centre for Development of Advance Computing) wherein language discs containing fonts and localized Bharateeya Libre Office and other software tools have been developed for free distribution in all 22 scheduled languages.

Localised BOSS (Bharat Operating System Solutions) Linux based operating system is also available free of cost for developing multilingual content.