

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2513
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2015
LEASING OUT INFRASTRUCTURE BY BSNL
Premachandran Shri N.K.

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

- (a) the details of the infrastructure facilities of BSNL leased out to private telephone operators and the revenue earned as a result thereof;
- (b) whether Government has allowed or proposes to allow private and foreign investment in this sector; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has reported that it has been sharing its passive infrastructure with private telephone operators since 2009. Details of towers leased out and revenues earned thereon are given below:-

S.N. Financial Year No. of Towers leased out Revenue earned (in Rs crores)

1	2009-10	341	1.80
2	2010-11	491	29.38
3	2011-12	609	42.67
4	2012-13	793	73.63
5	2013-14	739	98.88
6	2014-15	1933	115.73

(b)&(c) As per existing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy, 100% FDI is permitted in Telecom Sector including infrastructure providers subject to the condition that FDI up to 49% is on the automatic route and beyond 49% with approval of the Government. FDI is subject to observance of licensing and security conditions by licensee and investors as notified by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) from time to time.