

**Successful Companies for provision of Mobile Services (Universal Service Providers)**

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Group Company	Public/Private sector
1	Bharti Airtel Limited	Bharti	Private
2	Bharti Hexacom Limited	Bharti	Private
3	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited	BSNL	Public
4	Aircel Limited	Dishnet	Private
5	Dishnet Wireless Limited	Dishnet	Private
6	Aircel Digilink India Limited	Vodafone	Private
7	Fascel Limited	Vodafone	Private
8	Hutchison Essar Cellular Limited	Vodafone	Private
9	Hutchison Essar South Limited	Vodafone	Private
10	BTA Cellcom Limited	Idea	Private
11	Idea Cellular Limited	Idea	Private
12	Idea Mobile Communications Limited	Idea	Private
13	Reliance Communications Limited	Reliance	Private
14	Reliance Telecom Limited	Reliance	Private

**Withdrawal of landline connections**

†2661. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total number of landline phones operational in country during last five years as on 31st March, year-wise;

(b) the details of number of subscribers who have withdrawn landline connection during the said period, year-wise; and

(c) the reasons for withdrawal of landline connections by the subscribers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) Sir, the details of total number of landline phones in the country during the last five years is given below:

(figures in lakhs)

Number of landline connections as on				
31.03.2004	31.03.2005	31.03.2006	31.03.2007	31.03.2008
409.2	414.2	402.3	407.7	391.8

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The total number of landline connections of BSNL and MTNL working as on 31st March of the year during the last five years are given below:

(figures in lakhs)

Number of landline connections as on					
Year	31.03.2004	31.03.2005	31.03.2006	31.03.2007	31.03.2008
BSNL	354.3	358.6	354.2	337.4	315.6
MTNL	43.3	40.1	38.2	37.2	36.8

(b) The number of landline connections surrendered which includes disconnections due to non-payments during the last five years of BSNL and MTNL are given below:

Total landline telephones surrendered including disconnection due to non-payments

(figures in lakhs)

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
BSNL	32.6	34.2	38.1	42.6	43.8
MTNL	3.8	2.9	2.5	2.3	2.1

(c) The reasons for withdrawal of landline connections by the customers are given below:

- (i) Preference of customers for mobile telephone over landline telephone.
- (ii) Surrendering of 2nd and above telephone taken for internet etc. due to availability of broadband.
- (iii) Shifting of landline customer to BSNL Mobile.
- (iv) Shifting of landline customer to private operator.
- (v) Surrender of excess landline telephone connections.
- (vi) Shifting of office/company/residence.

#### Mobile call charges

2662. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to decrease the Mobile call charges in rural areas in order to increase the connectivity;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) No, Sir. At present there is no such proposal. The power to regulate telecom tariffs has been mandated to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). TRAI has put most of the Tariffs for telecom services in the country under forbearance. Thus, the service providers have the flexibility to offer the tariff packages keeping in view the requirements of customers and market conditions.