

Steps to make BSNL profitable

*259. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that losses of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) have increased manifold in the past few years;

(b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to take any effective steps to make BSNL profitable; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has suffered losses for the last two years. The financial status of BSNL for the last three years including the current year is as follows:

	Year		
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Income (Crores)	35,812	32,045	29,688
Expenditure (Crores)	34,354	34,078	36,002
Net Profit (Crores)	575	(-)1,823	(-)6,384

(c) and (d) Department of Telecommunications (DoT) regularly reviews the performance of BSNL to improve its financial health. Some of the steps taken by BSNL to make it profitable are as follows:

- Optimizing Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) and Operational Expenditure (OPEX) through convergence and consolidation of infrastructure.
- Strengthening of stable revenue streams through concerted focus on broadband and enterprise business with major focus on Government projects.
- Focussing on the revenue from top 100 Cities for monitoring purpose.
- Sustained operational focus on customer care, service delivery, service assurance, revenue management and asset management.

- Aggressive push on Data usage and value added services.
- Clear cut segregation of commercial activities from social obligation to ensure sustainable growth.
- Progressive migration of current network to Next generation network thereby ensuring convergence, consolidation and seamless delivery of various services to end customers across different technologies.

Development of railway lines in Gujarat

*260. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received any request from Government of Gujarat for development of various railway lines, for overall development of Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC);

(b) if so, by when Railways intend to start these projects; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir. Request has been received from GIDB (Gujarat Industrial Development Board), an agency of Government of Gujarat for development of various railway lines for overall development of DMIC (Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor).

(b) and (c) DMIC is a project of Government of India to develop Investment Nodes along the Western route of Dedicated Freight Corridor project of Railways. Of the projects listed in GIDB's letters, the following have been completed:-

- Dahej-Samni-Bharuch Section (Gauge Conversion).
- Chhota-Udepur-Vadodara Section (Gauge Conversion).
- Adipur-Gandhidham Section (Doubling).
- Gandhidham-Kandla Section (Doubling).

Work has been initiated on other projects - some have been sanctioned and preparatory work like survey and collection of traffic data has been taken up for others.