

Concession on internet connections for senior citizen

521. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some concession is allowed to senior citizens who use MTNL connections;

(b) whether no concession is allowed to senior citizens who use internet connections;

(c) whether it is also a fact that use of internet connection has become essential in day-to-day life like use of e-payment, e-banking. etc.; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not allowing concessional internet connection to senior citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. (SHRIMATI) KRUPARANI KILLI):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For Landline connection, the senior citizens (65 years and above) are allowed 25% concession on installation charges and monthly service charges under Plan 250. For Internet connections, no concessional facility is being provided at present.

(c) and (d) Although Internet connection is required for e-payment, e-banking etc., MTNL is not in a position to give concession to senior citizen for this facility due to financial constraints.

Mobile services in backward areas of Uttar Pradesh

†522. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has launched mobile services especially in the backward areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof, as on date;

(c) the areas of the country especially in Uttar Pradesh which have not yet been connected through the mobile services, as on date; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the reasons therefor and by when these areas are proposed to be connected through mobile services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. (SHRIMATI) KRUPARANI KILLI): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has launched its mobile telecom services in Uttar Pradesh including the backward areas subject to techno-commercial viability.

(c) and (d) BSNL augments its mobile network based on techno-commercial considerations. However, as on 31.01.2013 the coverage details of mobile telecom services of BSNL are as follows:—

	All India		Uttar Pradesh	
	Total	Covered (as on 31.01.2013)	Total	Covered (as on 31.01.2013)
District HQ	629	629	70	70
Block HQ	6274	6169	813	802
Village	610923	403997	104393	78225

Public telephone booths in villages

†523. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public telephone booths particularly in the backward districts in Uttar Pradesh, as on date;

(b) whether most of the villages in the State do not have the facility of public telephone booths; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to provide facility of rural public telephone booth in each of the village, particularly in remote villages in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) In Uttar Pradesh, 97,742 revenue villages out of 97,942 inhabited revenue villages, as per

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