

of assets to enhance availability of finances for network expansion and improvement in Quality of Service (QoS).

BSNL is separately preparing a revival plan for increasing revenue potential, identifying business opportunities, organizational restructuring to enable them to grow into customer-centric companies with expertise in marketing and customer services delivery and developing human resources strategy in line with restructured organizational vision.

(d) and (e) BSNL has submitted a proposal to offer Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) to one lakh employees to reduce employee expenses. After consideration of various options and based on the recommendations of Group of Ministers, Department of Telecommunications is considering a proposal to provide annual financial support for reduction of employee expenses with certain conditions.

3G connectivity

3288. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 3G facility is extended to all part of the country by BSNL and MTNL, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has noticed lack of proper network connectivity in areas where 3G has already been rolled out, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether BSNL and MTNL plan to improve their 3G delivery system, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Details of cities where 3G services being provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) Quality of Service (QoS) is monitored by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) against the prescribed benchmarks through Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs). TRAI has reported that while MTNL is meeting the benchmarks for all parameters in 3G services, BSNL is not meeting certain benchmarks for certain areas.

Reasons for not meeting the benchmarks for the parameters are mainly due to power supply problems and frequent road cutting resulting in damage to optical fibre cables that provide backhaul connectivity for 3G Nodes.

(c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has informed that it is upgrading its network and converting the transmission media to Internet Protocol (IP) media to enable delivery of 3G services. To improve coverage and data speed, BSNL is augmenting its network by adding IP based 10502 new Node-Bs for 3G services in the network as part of Phase VII expansion plan. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) is augmenting its network by adding 1080 Node-Bs for 3G services each in Delhi and Mumbai. The packet core capacity (Data handling capacity of network) will be increased from existing capacity of 400 Mbps (Delhi) and 1.8 Gbps (Mumbai) to 10 Gbps in both cities.

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) are also upgrading their existing HSDPA (High Speed Downlink Packet Access) 3G network supporting download speed of 3.6 Mbps and upload speed of 384 Kbps to support HSPA+ (High Speed Packet Access) with download speed of 21.1 Mbps and upload speed of 5.76 Mbps per sector in each Node-B.

Statement

*Details of cities where 3G services have been launched in BSNL and MTNL
Networks (As on 31.05.2014)*

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	No. of 3G cities
BSNL		
1.	Haryana	38
2.	Himachal Pradesh	35
3.	Punjab	72
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	51
5.	Jharkhand	29
6.	Rajasthan	58
7.	Uttarakhand	41
8.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	117
9.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	30
10.	Bihar	111
11.	Kolkata	01
12.	Madhya Pradesh	77

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	No. of 3G cities
13.	Odisha	69
14.	West Bengal	90
15.	North East-I	25
16.	North East-II	33
17.	Assam	149
18.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	05
19.	Chennai	17
20.	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	323
21.	Kerala	340
22.	Karnataka	81
23.	Tamil Nadu	71
24.	Chhattisgarh	45
25.	Maharashtra	291
26.	Gujarat	120
MTNL		
1.	Delhi	01
2.	Mumbai	01
TOTAL 3G CITIES		2321

Note: North east-I includes, Meghalaya Tripura and Mizoram.

North east-II includes Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur.

Non-functional mobile towers

3289. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of a number of mobile towers lying unused due to their being non-functional; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?