

Merger of MTNL with BSNL

672. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government proposes to merge MTNL with BSNL as a restructuring process of the Government telecom sector;

(b) if so, whether this merger can revive the debt loss of the Department; and

(c) if so, the details of the merger plan and economic benefits thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) Government is in the process of revival and revitalization of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) through various short term, medium term and long term measures.

The long-term measures, including merger of BSNL and MTNL, would attempt to position these PSUs to emerge as market leaders in the converged telecommunication market. For an in-depth study on the implications of merger of the two PSUs, four groups have been constituted to study issues of human resources integration, system integration, corporate integration and financial integration. Issues concerning the financial debt position of MTNL would be addressed by the group on financial integration.

Mobile Number Portability

673. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

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

(a) whether Government has asked mobile operators to implement full Mobile Number Portability (MNP) throughout the country within a specific time-frame, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether mobile operators have upgraded their network to meet the target of full MNP, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of people who have requested for MNP facility and whether operators would meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) The Department of Telecommunications has

issued instructions on 3rd November, 2014 to telecom service providers to implement full mobile number portability throughout the country within a time period of six months.

(b) and (c) In view of above, this does not arise at present.

Deterioration in mobile phone services of MTNL, Delhi

674. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the signals and connectivity of MTNL, Delhi mobile phones is deteriorating day-by-day and calls are dropped midway;

(b) whether the broadband connectivity of MTNL, Delhi also fluctuates and its speed dwindles though they have good infrastructure;

(c) whether the Private Service Providers are giving much faster and good quality services; and

(d) whether Government has initiated any steps to improve the connectivity and signals of MTNL services, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been monitoring the Quality of Service (QoS) provided by Mobile Service Providers and Basic Telephone Service Providers including Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) through quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs) submitted by service providers against the prescribed benchmarks for various QoS parameters.

TRAI has informed that as per PMRs for 2G and 3G services for the quarter ending June, 2014 and September, 2014, MTNL is meeting the benchmark for the entire related parameters in Delhi Service Area including call drop.

(b) and (c) TRAI has informed that for wireless data services, it has prescribed that every service provider shall indicate the minimum download speeds available to the consumers in all its wireless data plans and ensure that minimum download speed is available to the consumers for not less than 80% of usage time. TRAI has informed that MTNL has reported minimum download speed of 20.65 Kbps for 2G and 379.9Kbps for 3G users.

However, the speed of 3G data services depends on many factors such as number of users, spectrum available, handset processing capabilities, signal strength, mobile coverage and speed could fluctuate as the user moves from one place to another.