

(b) As 4G and 3G technology usage increases, site connectivity is to be augmented by using appropriate technology for backhaul like optical fibre or high bandwidth microwave.

(c) 4G services are available in all circles.

Decline in revenue of telecom operators

707. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the decline in telecom operators' revenue was due to falling tariff, which impacts their capacity to invest and can also lead to delay in spectrum payment, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that telecom service providers' debt is almost ₹4,60,000 crore, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Details of revenue figures for Q1-Q4 of 2016-17 are as below:

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Revenue (in Rupees crores)	60838.9	60862.2	53998.4	35926.6

(b) Yes, Sir. As per information from State Bank of India, Telecom industry owes about Rupees 6.10475 Lakh crores to various Financial Institutions and Banks as detailed below:

Debt Liabilities of Telecom Services Providers (in ₹ crores)

Particulars	Liabilities ¹
Airtel ^{2,3}	160,322
Idea ⁴	68,211
Vodafone ⁴	70,136
Reliance Communications ³	73,224
Tata ³	52,390
Aircel ⁴	29,569

Particulars	Liabilities ¹
BSNL ⁵	19,630
MTNL ⁵	23,820
Videocon ⁵	2,936
Reliance Jio ⁴	87,425
TOTAL	587,663

1. Excludes Non-Fund Based (NFB) limits of operators which may aggregate to another Rupees 50,000 crores.
2. Includes Africa and other Asia Operations.
3. Debt Numbers as on 31st December 2016.
4. Debt Numbers as on 28th Feb 2017.
5. Debt Numbers as on 31st March 2016. Split of Rupees and foreign Currency Facilities not available.

Debt Liabilities of Telecom Tower Companies (in ₹ crores)

Particulars	Liabilities
Bharti Infratel	2,329
Indus Tower	4,232
GTL Infra ¹	5,387
Chennai Network Infrastructure Limited (CNIL) ¹	4,864
Viom Networks	6,000
TOTAL	22,812

1. Number as on First Half Financial Year 2017

Condition of Government companies in telecom sector

†708. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether unprecedented progress in telephone communication, net revolution and other technical systems, due to which at present we are talking about 3G to 4G and even advanced technologies, has been brought about by Private sector only, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.