

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2863
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2021**

LOSS OF SUBSCRIBER BASE

2863. SHRI VELUSAMY P.:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any report from Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) regarding the loss of subscriber base for the last financial year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with specific number of loss of subscribers, State-wise with break up figure of wireless and wireline services;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the subscriber base;
- (d) the amount spent by BSNL for upgradation of their services for the past three years and the estimated amount for the current year; and
- (e) whether the Government is having any proposal to merge BSNL and MTNL and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

(a) & (b) The details of landline and mobile connections of BSNL during the last two years are at **Annexure-I**.

(c) BSNL augments its network based on techno-commercial considerations. It has rationalized its tariff plans and tied up with different channel partners to improve the services and increase its subscriber base. The Government on 23.10.2019 approved the revival plan of BSNL which inter-alia includes administrative allotment of spectrum for 4G services through capital infusion by the Government into BSNL/MTNL. BSNL is in the process of deployment of indigenous 4G technology through Proof of Concept route under Atma-nirbhar initiative of the Government of India.

(d) The details of expenditure by BSNL for upgradation of their mobile services for the past three years and the estimated amount for the current year are as follows:

Financial Year	Expenditure / Estimate (in Rs crore)
2018-2019	8,057
2019-2020	1,786
2020-2021	608
2021-2022	2,000

(e) The Government earlier in its cabinet meeting dated 23.10.2019 approved in-principle approval for merger of BSNL and MTNL. However due to financial reasons including high debt of MTNL, the merger of MTNL with BSNL is deferred. However, close co-operation and service integration between BSNL and MTNL has been undertaken.

Annexure to part-(b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2863 for 15.12.2021

Details of landline and mobile connections of BSNL				
Circle/State	Landline		Mobile	
	2019-20	2020-21	2019-20	2020-21
ANDAMAN/NICOBAR	16,570	16,306	2,27,695	2,51,488
ANDHRA PRADESH	4,25,528	3,18,023	67,84,672	66,31,363
ASSAM	95,015	82,206	28,09,624	30,33,066
BIHAR	86,643	74,458	40,98,777	42,05,523
CHHATTISGARH	1,14,261	53,263	21,82,121	21,74,854
GUJARAT	6,43,726	4,66,470	61,03,193	59,06,595
HARYANA	1,75,363	1,27,004	50,03,797	50,55,231
HIMACHAL PRADESH	94,579	75,707	29,91,601	30,21,606
JAMMU & KASHMIR	1,20,470	87,435	12,57,282	12,70,192
JHARKHAND	59,679	55,950	15,29,549	16,40,234
KARNATAKA	8,63,720	7,21,542	73,18,035	72,14,006
KERALA	14,45,592	10,33,144	1,09,44,293	1,09,12,516
MADHYA PRADESH	2,44,156	2,01,846	41,86,829	41,36,021
MAHARASHTRA	8,77,812	7,37,346	70,51,528	68,24,196
NORTH EAST	90,954	67,455	14,22,530	13,70,848
ODISHA	1,85,731	1,48,145	62,27,956	64,76,145
PUNJAB	3,14,234	2,27,116	57,79,360	57,59,876
RAJASTHAN	3,56,233	2,46,388	62,73,913	63,98,967
TAMIL NADU	7,21,659	5,11,388	1,02,49,709	86,53,347
UTTARAKHAND	73,173	49,121	15,31,499	14,36,975
UTTAR PRADESH	4,14,600	2,58,617	1,61,26,733	1,59,19,954
WEST BENGAL	5,35,279	5,00,879	42,39,581	48,36,150
CHENNAI	4,43,546	3,45,882	23,54,820	22,01,075
TELANGANA	3,28,580	2,43,748	30,95,804	30,55,065
