

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2140
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH MARCH, 2017**

GROWTH OF TELECOMMUNICATION MARKET

2140. SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country is witnessing fast growth of telecommunications market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with growth statistics for the past three years;
- (c) whether Indian cellular market is facing intense international competition;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether initiatives have been taken to boost the Indian cellular market; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)**

(a) & (b) Yes Madam. The service area wise total number of telephone connections in the country during the last three years are as under :-

Year	Total connections (in million)
31-03-2014	933.02
31-03-2015	996.13
31-03-2016	1059.33

(c) & (d) No Madam.

(e) & (f) The Initiatives taken to boost the Indian cellular market are as under:

- (i) Spectrum sharing, trading & liberalization has been permitted
- (ii) Spectrum auction has been done so that there is no scarcity of spectrum.
- (iii) Active infrastructure sharing has been permitted
- (iv) Aadhar based e-KYC process for subscriber acquisition has been introduced.
