

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1392
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27TH DECEMBER, 2017**

CONCESSION TO SENIOR CITIZENS

1392. SHRI RAGHAV LAKHANPAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of concessions in rent bills of landline telephones provided to senior citizens by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL);
- (b) whether concessions provided by MTNL to senior citizens are not being provided by BSNL in their service areas; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the action taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has reported that Senior citizens of the age of 65 years and above are exempted from payment of registration charges for Landline Telephone Connection. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) provides concession of 25% in installation/activation charge and monthly rental for Landline connection under Plan-250 in senior citizen category for persons who are more than 65 years old.

BSNL and MTNL are different Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) having different managements and Board of Directors. Both PSUs take their decision based on their commercial considerations. While Government would prefer the PSUs to provide greater concessions to senior citizens, it adheres to providing autonomy of the PSUs in taking commercial decisions.
