

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3066
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14th MARCH, 2018**

INTEGRATED DIGITAL AREA

†3066. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a private telecom company has announced to develop the country's first Integrated Digital Area in various States of the country including Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to develop Integrated Digital Area through the country's public sector telecom companies particularly Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL); and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Reliance Industries(RIL), the parent company of Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited (RJIL) has announced its plans to make infrastructure based investments in Maharashtra, as a part of endeavour to develop 'Integrated Digital Area' close to urban cities. RIL has announced a plan to invest Rs 60,000 crore in the next 10 years to set up Integrated Digital Area in Maharashtra.

(c) & (d) Government has not proposed to develop Integrated Digital Area through the public sector telecom companies, namely, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL). However, BSNL is participating in various tenders of Smart Cities issued from various Smart City Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs). BSNL is proposing to provide Telecom connectivity including Wi-Fi and other applications in association with its partners.
