

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5343  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2018**

**BSNL MOBILE AND LANDLINE CONNECTIONS IN ANDHRA PRADESH**

5343. SHRI Y.V. SUBBA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of mobile and landline connections in the State of Andhra Pradesh during each of the last three years, telecom service provider-wise and district-wise;
- (b) the reasons for decline, if any, in the number of mobile and landline connections of BSNL in the State; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to arrest the said decline in BSNL's connections?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Licenses for providing telecom services are given service area wise. Accordingly the data is maintained in the Department service area wise and not district wise. The operator wise number of mobile and landline telephone connections in Andhra Pradesh service area, which includes the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, during each of the last three years and current year (as on 31.01.2018), are given in **Annexure-1** and **Annexure-II** respectively.
- (b) There is no decline in mobile connections of BSNL in Andhra Pradesh service area. However, the landline connections have witnessed a decline over the last three years. The reasons behind decline of BSNL landline connections are as under:
  - General decline in the landline telephone connections due to tendency to shift to mobile services because of its convenience with regard to its utility and availability.
  - Surrender of landline connections due to non-payment of telephone bills.
  - Non availability of landline service on account of frequent interruption due to cable damage by various agencies working for road widening works, water and drainage activities etc.

(c) Various steps have been taken by BSNL to arrest decline of landline connections. These include rehabilitation of external plant and retrieval of good cable pairs, connecting all telephone exchanges on reliable digital media, patrolling of important cable routes to prevent cable theft etc.

BSNL has also launched various schemes to increase landline connections. These include:

- Unlimited free night calling from landline to any network between 22:30 hrs to 06:00 hrs for BSNL landline customers.
- BSNL has introduced new landline “Plan LL-299” with Fixed Monthly Charges (FMC) Rs.299. In this tariff plan 250 free calls are allowed to any network within India.
- BSNL has introduced Replacement of Instrument free of cost for existing customers, who have paid last six months bill for Landline/Combo connection with total amount of Rs.3600/- or above and having Landline for last three years
- BSNL has introduced Virtual landline Connection under plan “ÄSEEM” in which customers can get a Virtual Landline number and get diverted all the calls received on that number to a mobile number of his/her choice.

**Annexure-I**

**Operator wise number of mobile telephone connections in Andhra Pradesh service area during the last three years and current year as on 31.01.2018 are as follows:**

<b>Sr.No.</b>	<b>Telecom service provider</b>	<b>31.03.2015</b>	<b>31.03.2016</b>	<b>31.03.2017</b>	<b>31.01.2018</b>
1	Bharti Airtel	21842966	23592784	25867782	27243637
2	IDEA	14101423	15390077	17580618	16732811
3	Vodafone	6978118	7032368	6946782	6540448
4	Aircel	2608951	2725320	2614825	2315578
5	Telenor	5459948	5685052	5301805	4075080
6	Reliance	5119638	5611249	3602108	282891
7	TATA	6233932	4962611	3734568	2956652
8	Rel Jio	0	0	9371987	13952799
9	BSNL	9603423	9652963	9922220	10095444
	<b>Total</b>	<b>71948399</b>	<b>74652424</b>	<b>84942695</b>	<b>84195340</b>

**Annexure-II**

**Operator wise number of landline telephone connections in Andhra Pradesh service area during the last three years and current year as on 31.01.2018 are as follows:**

<b>Sr.No.</b>	<b>Telecom service provider</b>	<b>31.03.2015</b>	<b>31.03.2016</b>	<b>31.03.2017</b>	<b>31.01.2018</b>
1	Bharti Airtel	119680	145755	161781	166960
2	Reliance	80426	75937	75535	72859
3	TATA	162779	164318	172162	172249
4	Vodafone	9118	9240	12150	26650
5	Aircel	0	0	0	5312
6	BSNL	1496743	1340655	1216162	1058998
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1868746</b>	<b>1735905</b>	<b>1637790</b>	<b>1503028</b>

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