

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 866
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26TH JUNE, 2019**

MOBILE PHONE COMPANIES

†866. SHRI HARISH DWIVEDI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of mobile phone companies operating in the Country as on date;
- (b) the details of the criteria laid down for setting up a new mobile phone company; and
- (c) whether the said companies are providing more attractive schemes to their subscribers due to which of the services of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (MTNL) are being affected and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, LAW & JUSTICE AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

- (a) Eight companies namely, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Bharti Airtel Limited, Bharti Hexacom Limited, Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), Reliance JioInfocomm Limited, Tata Teleservices Limited, Tata Teleservices (Maharashtra) Limited and Vodafone Idea Limited are operating to provide mobile services in the country.
- (b) Mobile phone company has to be registered under Companies Act, 2013. Further, the Company has to seek permission from DoT, Unified License with Access Service authorization, for the Licensed Service Area in which the mobile services are to be provided. Guidelines for obtaining Unified License and draft License agreement are available on DoT website (www.dot.gov.in.)
- (c) BSNL and MTNL offer most competitive and affordable schemes to its customers. The schemes are provided depending on the competitive market conditions and techno commercial needs of the subscribers.
