

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 947  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2<sup>nd</sup> MARCH, 2016  
HIGH SPEED WI-FI SERVICES**

947. SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to roll out free high-speed Wi-Fi connectivity in cities and towns across the country over three years;
- (b) if so, whether the aforesaid plan will be implemented by the Government owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL);
- (c) if so, whether these companies will be able to provide free access of Wi-Fi connectivity to the consumers; and
- (d) whether BSNL and MTNL are suffering heavy losses?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) to (c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has provided Wi-Fi services at over 300 locations with more than 860 Hotspots in more than 60 cities. BSNL would be providing free Wi-Fi services, for first 15 minutes once in a month per user. BSNL is in the process of setting up of Wi-Fi Hotspots in the country on revenue share model at selected locations on the basis of techno-commercial feasibility.

(d) Details of profit and losses of BSNL and MTNL for the last three years are as follows:

(in Rupees Crore)		
Year	BSNL	MTNL
2012-13	(-)7884	(-)5321
2013-14	(-)7020	7825
2014-15	(-)8234	(-)2893

However, BSNL earned an operating profit of Rs. 673 crore during the year 2014-15. BSNL's income from services has increased by 4.16% in 2014-15 as compared to previous financial year which stands at Rs 27,242 crore.

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