

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

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 78
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9th FEBRUARY, 2018**

CREATION OF SEPARATE TOWER COMPANY UNDER BSNL

†*78. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), a profit making Government undertaking has installed 70,000 towers with its own expenses;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government intends to divide BSNL in certain segments and create a new company named as Tower Company;
- (c) if so, whether the Tower Company would remain under BSNL or would be handed over to some private company; and
- (d) if the Tower Company is to be handed over to some private company, the basis/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) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Contd.....2/-

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF RAJYA SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *78 FOR 9TH FEBRUARY, 2018 ON “CREATION OF SEPARATE TOWER COMPANY UNDER BSNL”.

(a) to (d) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) a 100% Government of India owned enterprise has been incurring net losses for a number of years and has 66847 mobile towers, which includes 61124 towers installed from BSNL funds and 5723 towers installed from funds received from the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). The Government has approved the hiving-off of mobile tower infrastructure of BSNL into a separate subsidiary company which will be fully owned by BSNL. The subsidiary company may set up a Joint Venture Company with a partner, preferably within two years, on achieving financial health and stability with the objective of monetisation of its assets.
