

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3678
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND MARCH, 2023**

MOBILE DETAILS OF BSNL EMPLOYEES

3678. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to collect the mobile details of the employees of BSNL and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has issued directions to the BSNL authorities to collect the data of official phones and personal phones of BSNL employees and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received complaints regarding collection of mobile data of BSNL employees in Kerala circle and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has obtained consent of BSNL employees for collecting their telephone details and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether BSNL has been seeking the permission of appropriate authorities for the collection of mobile data of the BSNL employees; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

(a) & (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f) In BSNL, three complaints were received from unions of BSNL, Kerala Circle, dated 28.08.2021 & 30.08.2021 including one PIDPI complaint (Public Interest Disclosure Protection of Informer Resolution) dated 04.01.2022 from Chief Vigilance Commission (CVC) which were replied by BSNL, on 30.08.2021, 31.08.2021 & 02.02.2022 respectively. These complaints are pertaining to an online Attendance System for BSNL employees implemented in BSNL Kerala Circle. In this system, an OTP (One Time Password) is sent to the employee's mobile at the time of Sign IN/OUT for marking attendance. At the time of OTP, the location information of the mobile was also taken, so as to ensure that the employee concerned was actually in the office, while marking the attendance. The system has been deployed to check employees who are habitual late comers and are in the habit of putting attendance from places away from their office without being physically present in the office. There is no intrusion on privacy whatsoever and the system has been introduced to ensure discipline and in public interest.