

Briefs: India minister against telecom net sharing

November 30 2005

India's telecom minister says he is against requiring companies to share their communications infrastructure with competitors.

IT and Telecommunications Minister Dayanidhi Maran this week came out against government proposals requiring state-run telecom majors MTNL and BSNL to share infrastructure and unbundled local loops, the Business Standard said Wednesday.

While sharing would reduce the time and capital sunk into infrastructure, Maran countered that MTNL and BSNL have large investments in their networks and are using a large percentage of capacity.

Maran said private telecom companies would have to set up their own networks, although the government was willing to offer assistance.

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