

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:162
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003
WLL IN RURAL AREAS
SHRINWAS DADASAHEB PATIL

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

- (a) whether the Rural connectivity programme has been hampered after the formation of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof ;
- (c) The steps taken by the Government to increase connectivity network in rural areas ;
- (d) Whether the WLL technology is restricted to urban areas and rural areas are not covered by this technology;
- (e) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (f) Steps taken by the Government for extension of WLL facility to rural areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI , PRADHAN)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c) Steps taken by the Government to increase connectivity network in rural areas are given below:
 - (i) Conversion of C-DOT (Centre for Development of Telematics) 256 PRAX (Primary Rural Automatic Exchange) into V-5.2 AN RA (Access network Rural Automatic Exchange) to provide more number of connections;
 - (ii) Provision of satellite based VPTs (Village Public Telephones);
 - (iii) To create more capacity in rural exchanges so as to provide telephone connections on demand;
 - (iv) Introduction of Gramin Sanchar Sewak Scheme to provide access to rural people not having telephone connections;
 - (v) Expansion of existing rural WLL (Wireless in Local Loop) BTS (Base Terminal Station) capacity from present 500 lines to 1000 lines;
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise in view (d) above.
- (f) The procurement of 5 Lakh lines of WLL CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) (Urban), 5 lakh lines WLL CDMA V 5.2 (Urban , Rural), 5.77 lakh lines of WLL Cordect system (Urban and Rural) and 3.925 WLL CDMA (Rural expansion) has been initiated which is being deployed in both Urban and Rural areas. In addition the tender for 7.45 lakh lines of WLL CDMA with MSC (Main Switching Centre) has also been finalized which will be also deployed in both urban and rural areas.