

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1309  
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2003  
WAITING LIST FOR TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS  
BHAN SINGH BHAURA

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

- (a) the total number of applicants waiting for new telephone connections in Punjab till date;
- (b) the number of new connections released in the State during the last two years and the number of applications received by the department during the same period; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to clear the backlog?

**Answer**

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

- (a) A total of 1,02,990 applicants are in the waiting list as on 30-11-2003 for new telephone connections in Punjab.
- (b) The number of new connections released in the State during the last two years and number of applications received by BSNL during the same period are as under:

Year    No. of Connections released    Number of applications received

2001-2002	384704	246122
2002-2003	121002	166264

- (c) To clear most of the backlog, BSNL has planned a total of 1,69,000 DELs (Direct Exchange Lines) to be provided during 2003-2004 on Fixed and WLL (Wireless in Local Loop) in addition to 2,20,000 No. of Cellular DELs subject to availability of resources.