

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5846  
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2005  
WLL MEDIUM FOR INACCESSIBLE AREAS  
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to adopt WLL medium to provide telecommunication services in the highly inaccessible areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the number of States and Districts where this WLL service has been extended;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government for the participation of private companies in this sector; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c) 14,183 Digital Satellite Phone Terminals (DSPTs) are being planned for remote and far-flung areas to provide communication facilities.
- (d) & (e): No, Sir. License is technology neutral. Operators choose technology on techno-economic considerations.