

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2037
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004
MOBILE AND WLL SERVICE IN NORTH EASTERN REGION
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the implementation status of the introduction of BSNL's Mobile and WLL service in the north East Region, location-wise capacity, target set for phase-wise;
- (b) the reasons for very low quality and poor performance of both BSNL and Private Mobile Services in Assam;
- (c) the time by which services are likely to be improved;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up electronic telephone exchange in Assam during the Tenth Plan; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

Answer

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

(a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) had planned Cellular Mobile Service in 73 districts in North Eastern Region including Assam. Out of these 73 districts, BSNL has so far covered 58 districts with cellular mobile service. The State-wise implementation status including proposed expansion of cellular service in North Eastern Region and Assam is given in Annexure-I. Similarly, the State-wise implementation status including proposed expansion of WLL service in North Eastern Region and Assam is given in the Annexure-II.

(b) & (c) Only two service providers, namely, M/s Reliance Telecom Pvt. Ltd. and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) have started mobile service in Assam. M/s Reliance Telecom Pvt. Ltd. is providing satisfactory service in Assam within standards set by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). BSNL has started service in February, 2004 and generally the quality of service has been observed to be satisfactory. However, congestions in some areas due to heavy calling pattern is being attended to through expansion plans proposed during the current financial year i.e. 2004-2005.

(d) & (e) BSNL has planned to install 37 new electronic telephone exchanges in Assam during current financial year i.e. 2004-05. The details are given in Annexure-III. However, for the remaining years of 10th Plan further expansion of the network will be based on the demand, commercial viability and availability of funds. Hence the details cannot be provided at this stage.

ANNEXURE-I

State wise details of implementation status for Cellular Mobile Service in North Eastern Region and Assam.

Sl. No.	Name of the State Available	Cellular Capacity	No. of Districts covered	No. of Districts	Expansion proposed
1.	Assam	42550	23	22	100000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	14300	14	7	8250
3.	Manipur	8300	9	8	6950
4.	Mizoram	8300	8	7	8000
5.	Meghalaya	7300	7	6	9300
6.	Nagaland	8300	8	5	9450

7 Tripura	6300	4	3	8400
Total	95350	73	58	150350

ANNEXURE-II

State wise details of implementation status for WLL Service in North Eastern Region and Assam

Sl. No.	Name of the State	WLL Capacity available	Plan for 2004-2005
1.	Assam	56250	40000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6000	17500
3.	Manipur	4000	12750
4.	Mizoram	3500	11000
5.	Meghalaya	9000	12000
6.	Nagaland	5000	9750
7	Tripura	6000	12000
Total		89750	115000

ANNEXURE- III

Details of New Telephone Exchanges planned in Rural Areas of Assam during 2004-05

Sl. No.	SSA	New Exchanges	Telephone to be Commissioned
1.	Bongaigaon	Srijangram	
2.		Rangsaibeda	
3.		Runikheta	
4.		Southarvita	
5.		Bishkhowa	
6.		Gobradal	
7		Golpara (NLB)	

8.	Helena
9.	Jaraguri
10.	Kajalgaon
11.	Barnadi
12.	Niznamati
13.	Nikashi
14.	Nagarijuli
15.	Nimua
16.	Gahia
17.	Baliguri
18.	Baganpara
19.	Balagaon
20. Dibrugarh	Tiloi
21.	Kharjan
22. Jorhat	Tengapukhuri
23.	Dhitaipukhuri
24.	Bamanpukhuri
25.	Baligaon
26.	Ramohanijan
27.	Samanpukhuri
28. Kamrup	Panitema
29.	Naokata
30.	Lenga
31.	Dorakohara
32.	Singrapara
33. Silchar	Kaptanpur
34.	Sibpur
35.	Kalibaribazar
36.	Mahanpur
37.	Kuarpar