

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1246
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2005
PERFORMANCE OF BSNL MOBILE SERVICE
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the time by which the telephone facility is likely to be provided to those who had applied for the same during the last five years;
- (b) whether the BSNL mobile service is not working properly despite the fact that the BSNL has a wide network while the private companies are expanding their network;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the concrete steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) Sir, most of the fixed line waiting list is in rural remote areas. BSNL is taking several steps to make available telephone facility in these areas such as:

- (i) Large scale deployment of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) network in rural areas;
- (ii) Relaxation of the outdoor cable norms to 5 Kms against the earlier standard of 2.5 Kms for landline exchanges;
- (iii) Deployment of mobile network on all the highways, important towns, pilgrim centers and the State highways, which give incidental coverage to large parts of rural areas, thus catering to demand for wireless connectivity in these areas.

With all the above efforts, most of the existing waiting list is likely to be cleared by December, 2006.

(b) to (d) Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) service of BSNL is working satisfactorily and is meeting the Quality of Service (QoS) parameters set by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in general. However, due to the overwhelming response for BSNL mobile connections from the public, present capacity of the mobile network in some of the Telecom circles has been fully utilized. As such, some congestion during the busy hours in some areas is observed.

BSNL has been augmenting its GSM network continuously and action has been taken to augment its mobile network capacity by 14 million lines during the current financial year. Further, mobile network is being optimized for its performance continuously and monitoring of the network has been strengthened by BSNL to ensure performance as per the QoS parameters prescribed by TRAI.