

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2208
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005
WIRELINE TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

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

- (a) the details of number of wireline telephone subscribers added by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) during the last three years;
- (b) the total cost of adding these wireline telephones, year- wise;
- (c) whether the cost incurred has been subsidized by the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF);
- (d) if so, the details of funds disbursed from USO Fund;
- (e) whether the BSNL has incurred operational losses on wirelines telephones; and
- (f) if so, the extent to which it has been subsidized through Access Deficit Charge (ADC)?

Answer

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

- (a) Sir, details of the net addition in wireline telephone subscribers of BSNL during each of the last three years are as under:

YEAR	TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS
2002-03	2212469
2003-04	18679
2004-05	423845

- (b) The approximate cost of adding these wireline telephones, year-wise is as under:

	(Rs. in Crore)
2002-03	7352.13
2003-04	5113.75
2004-05	2771.60

(c) & (d) Disbursement of Rs.114.85 crore and Rs.480.19 crore during the year 2004-05 and 2005-06 respectively from the USO Fund has been made for rural household DELs installed with effect from (w.e.f) 01.04.2002 to 31.03.2004 in 1685 specified Short Distance Charging Areas (SDCAs). BSNL has entered into an agreement with DOT to provide rural household DELs in 1267 specified SDCAs w.e.f 01.04.2005. For Rural Household DELs installed during 2005-06 in these SDCAs, USO Fund has reimbursed Rs.59.822 crores till now.

- (e) & (f) The estimated operational losses on account of rural wireline telephony during the last three years are as under:

	(Rs. in Crore)
2002-03	7960.80
2003-04	9528.88
2004-05	9792.23

A part of the losses have been compensated by support from ADC. The amount of ADC billed from date of introduction i.e. 01.02.2004 to 31.03.2005 is Rs.1122 Crores.