

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:775

ANSWERED ON:24.02.2006

INSTALLATION OF TOWERS FOR CELLULAR PHONE IN H.P.

Singh Smt. Pratibha

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

- (a) whether the number of towers set up for providing telecommunication facilities and proper functioning of cellular telephone facilities in Himachal Pradesh is adequate;
- (b) if not, the number of towers proposed to be sanctioned and the population likely to be covered in the State therefrom;
- (c) the time by which the telephone facilities are likely to be made available through MCPP at the places in which landline telephone facility is not possible under new policy;
- (d) the total population of State having telephone facility; and
- (e) the details of plan to provide telephone facility to the remaining population in the State?

Answer

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

- (a) Sir, with 319 towers provided by BSNL and 330 towers provided by Private operators there is proper functioning of cellular telephone facilities in Himachal Pradesh (HP).
- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above. However, keeping in view the past trends and future demand and growth, BSNL plans to augment further its mobile Network for which 138 additional mobile base stations (towers) are planned to be added during current year. Further, Private Operators have planned to 251 more towers in 2006-07 for cellular mobile services.
- (c) No MCPC (Multi Channel Per Carrier) system has been planned for induction in Himachal Pradesh State.
- (d) The total population of HP as per census 2001 is 60,77,900. The working telephones of BSNL as on 31-01-2006 are 7,20,890. Similarly 3,32,995 subscribers belong to Private Operators.
- (e) BSNL has planned to provide telephone connections in Himachal Pradesh for the year 2005-06 as detailed below:

Type of	DEL	Wire Line	WLL	Mobile	Service	Total
Plan	905	23,857	80,000	1,04,762		

BSNL has planned to provide telephone connections to all the 38,835 existing waitlisted applicants progressively by December, 2006.