

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:889

ANSWERED ON:24.02.2006

INSTALLATION OF MOBILE SERVER IN NORTH EASTERN REGION

Sarma Dr. Arun Kumar;Subba Shri Moni Kumar

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

- (a) whether in the absence of an independent Server in Guwahati for six North Eastern Region States are likely to further deteriorate the mobile services;
- (b) if so, whether the government proposes to instal independent Server as well as other devices in the region to ensure better connectivity of mobile phone;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any comprehensive scheme has been drawn out to improve and update mobile phone services in the region in coordination with the private Mobile Service Providers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (e) No, Sir. For the purpose of Telecom Services, the North Eastern Region is divided into two service areas namely Assam and North-East Telecom Circle. Access Service Licenses have been granted to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and three Private Operators each in these service areas who provide mobile service.

The respective Mobile Service Providers of these service areas have installed their Mobile Switching Centres (MSCs) in Guwahati (for Assam Telecom Circle Service area) and at Shillong (for North-East Telecom Circle service area). In addition, MSCs have also been installed by the Operators at Aizawal, Jorhat and Dimapur.

BSNL is making all out efforts to expand its mobile network and enhance capacities in North Eastern region to provide service up to Sub-Divisional Headquarters. BSNL has already covered 131 cities/towns/stations in Assam and 94 cities/towns/stations in North East Telecom Circle service areas. Apart from BSNL, private Operators licensed in these service areas are also providing mobile service in the North Eastern region. The presence of multiple Operators in the NE region has led to competition which would improve and update mobile services and also reduce the tariffs to the consumers of this region.