

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2313
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2006
ACCESS DEFICIT CHARGE REGIME
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

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

- (a) whether State owned companies have not spent enough amount on rural telephony from the amount collected by them as ADC from various users;
- (b) if so, the reasons thereof;
- (c) the details of the amount collected annually through ADC from various users during the last three years;
- (d) the amount spent out of that to provide telephone connection in rural India; and
- (e) the time by which the entire rural and backward areas are likely to be provided with telephones?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is the major recipient of Access Deficit charge (ADC). BSNL has stated that there is no mechanism of maintaining separate records of ADC in its network for traffic originated from its own network. Due to this, the amount of ADC cannot be separately estimated. ADC is not meant only for rural networks but is also meant for providing affordable telecommunication services in semi-urban and urban areas.

(e) Agreements have already been signed with M/s BSNL in November 2004 to provide subsidy for provision of a Village Public Telephone (VPT) in the remaining 66,822 number of uncovered villages in the country excluding those villages having population less than 100 and those affected with insurgency. All the uncovered VPTs are to be provided in these villages within three years of the signing of the Agreement i.e. by November 2007.