

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3958
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2006
BSNL EXPENDITURE IN VILLAGES/ REMOTE AREAS
Rajendran Shri P.;Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

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

- (a) the expenditure incurred by the BSNL for providing telecom facility in villages and remote areas of the country since October, 2000 and the current year;
- (b) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited is considering to reduce its investment for telephone services in rural areas;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether rural telephony is likely to be costly as a result of it; and
- (e) if so, the extent thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) The details of the year-wise expenditure incurred by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited for providing telecom facilities in village/remote areas are as under:-

S.No. Year Amount (Rupees in Crores)

October 2000-01	2,666.50
(Estimated figures)	
2001-02	7,946.17
2002-03	4,395.23
2003-04	2,739.35
2004-05	2,268.56
2005-06	2,259.00
(Provisional)	
2006-07 (Budget allocation)	2,589.52

- (b) BSNL will continue to make necessary capital investment in rural areas.
- (c) to (e) Do not arise in view of (b) above.