

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3205  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2006  
PROCUREMENT OF EQUIPMENT .  
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

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

- (a) Whether the Government has purchased a large number of Hand Held Terminals (HHTs), Fixed Wireless Terminals (FWTs), Fixed Remote Sets (FRSs) and Wall Sets (WSs) etc. during the year January, 2003 to December, 2004;
- (b) If so, the details in this regard;
- (c) Whether the Government has conducted any customers survey before procurement of these equipments;
- (d) If so, the details thereof;
- (e) If not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) The number of sets lying idle in stock in the various circles as on date;
- (g) The loss of revenue suffered as a result thereof; and
- (h) The action taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Yes, Sir. The Government telecom operators viz. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) had purchased HHTs, FWTs, FRSs and WS during the period January 2003 to December 2004.
- (b) MTNL had purchased 160K HHTs during the said period. No purchases of FWTs, FRSs and WS were made. Details in respect of BSNL are given in Annexure-I.
- (c) to (e) Procurement of all equipments is done based on demand projections and keeping in view the available stock. Since the demand for Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) connections was continuously increasing from 2002 onwards procurements of WLL terminals was done to cater to the demand of customers.
- (f) Number of sets lying in the stock of MTNL and BSNL as on 30-06-2006 is given in Annexure-II.
- (g) & (h) There is no loss of revenue as BSNL has been providing connections as per the requirements and needs of customers. The present focus of the company is to provide fixed line service using IFWTs to its customers. All out efforts are being made to utilize HHTs and FRS terminals lying in stores for which BSNL introduced two special tariff plans. There is no loss of revenue for MTNL also.