

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4070  
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2004  
SORTAGE OF SIM CARDS  
Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir

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

- (a) whether there is acute shortage of SIM Cards in Sultanpur District of Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) the number of SIM Cards issued during the last two years and the number of pending applications at present;
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to issue SIM Cards to all the applicants at the earliest;
- (e) whether the Government is also aware of the fact that the SIM Cards are being issued instantly to the influential persons and touts in the district; and
- (f) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & (b) The SIM cards are made available in adequate quantities commensurate with the available capacity. Presently in Sultanpur district, the network has been loaded with 13182 subscribers working against the capacity of 8900 lines.
- (c) The total number of SIM cards issued to Sultanpur District, since launch of the service in UP in October 2002, are 13861 and the number of pending applicants is 7588.
- (d) BSNL is already in the process of expanding the cellular capacity by 2800 lines and the same is expected during current year. BSNL has also taken action for further expansion of cellular capacity by 17000 lines and the same is expected during the year 2005.
- (e) No such instances have come to the notice of BSNL
- (f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.