

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3049
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2006
DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS/ IT SCHEMES
Singh Shri Suraj

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes any scheme for the extension of communications and information technology and providing state of the art facilities in the backward States especially in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the names of the schemes which are likely to be implemented in Begusarai and Khagaria districts of Bihar;
- (e) the details of the extension and availability of Broadband services in these districts; and
- (f) the details of the schemes of information technology to be implemented in these districts?

Answer

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

Reply pertaining to Department of Telecommunications

(a) to (c) Following schemes have been proposed for the extension of Telecommunications and the provision of state of art facilities in the backward states including Bihar:-

(i) Government is in the process of launching a scheme to provide support for provision of infrastructure for mobile services in rural and remote areas of the country. The infrastructure shall be created in areas where there is no existing fixed wireless and mobile coverage.

(ii) Expansion of Telecommunications network planned by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited for the year 2006-07 is given below:-

Sl. No	Item	For the whole country	For Bihar Telecom Circle
1	Net addition in Telephone Exchange Equipment (in lakh)	100	1.6
2	Net addition in Broadband Connection Equipments	6,00,000	20,400
3	Net addition in Internet Connections	8,00,000	5,300
4	Provision of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) for coverage of unconnected villages	20,000	0
5	Net addition of Optical Fibre Cable (in Route Kilometers)	24,000	1,240

6 Net addition in Trunk Automatic Exchange (TAX) capacity (in kilo ccts) 1,200 50

(d) & (e) The names and details of the schemes which are proposed to be implemented in Begusarai and Khagaria districts of Bihar including expansion and availability of Broadband Services in these districts are given below:-

Sl. No.	Parameter	Begusarai	Khagaria
1	Capacity (Lines) on Wireless in Local Loop (WLL)	3,000	750
	Cellular Mobile	26,500	13,500
2.	Direct Exchange Lines (DELs)		
	Land Line (LL)	2,700	2,200
	WLL	3,000	750
	Cellular Mobile	26,500	13,500
3	Broadband connections	255	-
4	Internet Connections	360	120
5	TAX (K CCTs)	-	7
6	OFC (RKMs)	50	10

(f) Following Information Technology schemes are planned to be implemented in Begusarai and Khagaria districts:-

(i) Implementation of DOTSOFT software for all subscribers related activities i.e., Billing Commercial Fault Repair Service and Directory Enquiry.

(ii) Implementation of SMS Alert Facility to Basic Telephone Customers on dispatch of Bills.

(iii) Provision of Customer Care Services to Mobile and Landline customers through Call Centre.

Department of Post

(a) to (f) It has been proposed to provide computer facilities in all large Post Offices having more than two counters all over the country including that located in the backward areas during the Tenth Plan. 293 Post Offices in Bihar have already been provided with computer facilities under this plan.

Eleven large Post Offices in Khagaria and three large Post Offices in Begusarai are being computerized.

Department of Information Technology

(a) to (f) Following two schemes are being implemented throughout the country including Bihar.

(i) State Wide Area Network Scheme (SWAN)

This scheme seeks to provide 2 MBPS connectivity in all Blocks, Sub-divisions and District Headquarters of the States throughout the country including Bihar. The Government has approved the project 'Bihar State Wide Area Networks' (BSWAN) in October, 2006, with a total outlay of Rs.256.24 crore.

(ii) Common Service Centre (CSC) Scheme This Scheme provides for setting up more than 1 lakh broadband internet enabled CSCs primarily in rural areas for providing Government and private services at the doorstep of the citizens. Under this scheme Bihar would be eligible to set up 7,516 broadband, internet enabled CSCs. An amount of Rs.119.20 crore has been sanctioned for CSC Scheme in Bihar.

The CSC and SWAN Schemes would be implemented in the Districts of Begusarai and Khagaria.

The Details of the SWAN Scheme and the CSC Guidelines can be accessed at the website www.mit.gov.in.