

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3084
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2006
TELECOM SERVICES IN NATIONAL TIGER PROJECT
Deora Shri Milind Murl

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to install landline telephone and mobile services in the Tadoba-Andhari National Tiger Project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which it will be made available;
- (c) the extent to which it will be beneficial to the department and also the tourists from within the country and abroad;
- (d) the names of telephone companies which are likely to provide the services for the project;
- (e) whether the Ministry of Environment and Forests has given its green signal; and
- (f) the total expenditure likely to be incurred on providing such facilities?

Answer

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

- (a)&(b) Yes, Sir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has received demand for about 100 telephone connections in Tadoba forest area from the forest authorities. It has been planned to provide these telephone on Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) system for which survey work is going on. However no time frame can be given as permission from the Ministry of Environment and Forest is yet to be obtained. As this is a dense forest area mobile telephone service is not a feasible solution at present due to low demand.
- (c) Availability of telecom services is likely to benefit the forest authorities and tourists visiting the place. Benefit to BSNL is dependent on inflow of tourists.
- (d) Telephone services can be provided by BSNL.
- (e) Demand for telephone connections has come from forest authorities, who have assured to provide the permission from the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
- (f) Capital expenditure expected to be incurred by BSNL on providing the WLL facility is approx. Rs. 54 lakhs.