

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3088
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2006
TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN BIHAR
Rajbhar Shri Chandra Dev Prasad

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

- (a) whether all the telephone connections of Tribhuhani Ghat under the Bithauli Exchange in Darbhanga district of Bihar have been disconnected since a long time;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the time by which the telephone service is likely to be restored to all the subscribers of the Tribhuhani Ghat;
- (d) whether 50 per cent telephones under the Bithauli Exchange remain out of service frequently;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the concrete steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) Sir, out of 17 telephones working in Tribhuhani Ghat under Bithauli telephone exchange of BSNL in Darbhanga District of Bihar, 3 telephones are disconnected due to non-payment. All other telephones are generally working satisfactorily except 3 telephones which were affected during May 2006 and 1 telephone in October, 2006 for a few days due to cable damaged by road construction agencies which were restored promptly.
- (b) Telephone No. 272470, 272329 and 272642 have been disconnected due to non-payment.
- (c) At present all the telephones in Tribhuhani Ghat are working satisfactorily.
- (d) All the telephones under Bithauli exchange are working satisfactorily since last six months except occasional faults in some telephones which were restored promptly.
- (e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.
- (f) BSNL has taken following steps to reduce fault rate in view of the massive road expansion works being carried out by the Highway Authorities:-
 - (i) New Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) has been laid in coordination with P.W.D. to minimize the OFC cut.
 - (ii) MSC based WLL (Wireless in Local Loop) at Bithauli and Majhulia are planned for the year 2006-07 to enable restoration of faulty telephones promptly by alternate WLL connection.
 - (iii) Damaged local cable cut by outside agencies carrying out the road construction works are being replaced by new under ground cable promptly.
 - (iv) A Digital microwave radio system has been installed between Darbhanga and Baheri to work as a stand-by media.
 - (v) Patrolling on the route where road construction work is going on, has been increased.