

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1082
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2007
MOBILE TOWER IN VILLAGES
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh;Pathak Shri Brajesh

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up GSM/BTS towers in villages to strengthen the communication system as reported in the Rashtriya Sahara dated January 23, 2007;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise;
- (c) whether tenders have been/are being invited from private sector companies for the purpose;
- (d) if so, the estimated total number of rural areas in the country where the towers are likely to be set up;
- (e) whether such towers are being set up in all the areas;
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (g) whether the work is being done on other schemes for development of mobile services in the country; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and Location-wise?

Answer

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

(a) Government is in the process of taking necessary action to provide support for provision of infrastructure for mobile services including Wireless Access Services like Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) using Fixed/Mobile Access Services like Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) using Fixed/Mobile Terminals in rural and remote areas of the country. The infrastructure shall be created in those specified areas where there is no exiting fixed wireless or mobile coverage.

(b) A total of 7,871 towers will be set up in rural and remote areas of the country in 500 districts spread over 27 States. The District-wise, Village-wise location of these towers can be accessed on Department of Telecommunications website (www.dot.gov.in).

(c) Yes, Sir. The tenders have been invited from existing Basic Service Operators (BSO), Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Providers Unified Access Services Licenses (UASL) and Shortlisted Infrastructure Providers Category – I (IP-I) comprising of both private and public sector operators.

Bids have been received.

(d) These towers will be set up in 7,871 villages.

(e) These towers will be installed only in those rural and remote areas of the country where there is no existing Fixed Wireless or mobile coverage.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise in view of (g) above.