

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2245
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007
WAITING LIST OF MOBILE LANDLINE TELEPHONE SERVICE
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of applicants in the waiting list of mobile phone/landline telephone service of BSNL/MTNL in the country as on January 1, 2007, State-wise;
- (b) the time by which the Government proposes to provide connections to the applicants; and
- (c) the reasons for delay in granting new connection?

Answer

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

(a) Sir, total number of applicants in the waiting list of fixed line telephone and mobile phones of BSNL as on 1st January 2007 are 9.28 lakhs and 0.57 lakhs respectively. Circle-wise details are given in the Annexure. MTNL is providing mobile and landlines connections on demand. However, in MTNL Mumbai, 1712 landline connections are technically non-feasible which are being provided progressively.

(b)
(i) Waiting list for BSNL's mobile telephones as on 01.01.2007 was in four circles namely Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, North East-I and North East-II. Out of these, waiting list in Maharashtra has been cleared as on date. The waiting list in Chhattisgarh and North East-II is scheduled to be cleared by March, 2007 and North East-I circle by June 2007.

(ii) Most of applicants in the waiting list of fixed line telephone as on 1st January 2007 are planned to be provided telephone connections by March 2008 progressively for which following steps are being taken:-

BSNL has restored laying of U/G cable upto 5 Km. of telephone exchanges against the norm of 2.5 Kms for providing telephone on landline.

BSNL is deploying WLL network in rural area to meet the demand of telephone connections beyond 5 Kms of exchange i.e. scattered and far flung rural areas and where telephone connection is not possible on landline.

(c) Telephone connections are provided within norms of 7 days in technically feasible areas. However, delay in provision of new connection in some areas is due to following reasons:

- i) Technically non – feasible areas
- ii) Poor Infrastructure i.e. electric power, road and, transport etc. in rural areas.