

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3663
ANSWERED ON:10.09.2007
MOBILE PHONE SERVICE
Patel Shri Jivabhai Ambalal;Thummar Shri Virjibhai

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

- (a) the population and areas in Gujarat which have been covered by mobile phone service;
- (b) the details of extension and development works of mobile phone service in Gujarat which is under consideration of the Government;
- (c) whether the mobile phone service of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (B.S.N.L.) is functioning unsatisfactorily;
- (d) if so, whether the functioning of B.S.N.L. officials have been assessed in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the results thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has covered 70,800 sq.kms. of area and around 3,38,50,000 population by its Global System for Mobile (GSM) mobile services in the State of Gujarat.
- (b) Presently the expansion work of 3.5 lakhs GSM lines is in progress and BSNL has further planned addition of 15 lakhs GSM lines progressively in the next three years.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) & (e) Sir, functioning of BSNL officials is assessed regularly and their performance is quite satisfactory resulting in overall positive growth of BSNL's telecom network across the country.