

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:361  
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2005  
TELECOM SERVICE IN RURAL AREAS  
Sonowal Shri Sarbananda

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to provide more thrust to rural areas in telecom sector;
- (b) whether some private parties have come forward to invest in rural areas in the telecom sector;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the States in which these telecom projects are likely to be undertaken?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 361 FOR 20TH APRIL, 2005 REGARDING TELECOM SERVICE IN RURAL AREAS.

(a) Yes, Sir. Government would be providing Village Public Telephones in all the remaining 66,822 unconnected villages by November, 2007. This excludes villages having population less than 100 lying in the forest areas, insurgency/naxalite infected areas etc. It is also planned to introduce WLL on large scale by providing at least one BTS in each Short Distance Charging Area (SDCA). In addition, the office of Administrator Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) has entered into agreements with various operators for providing DELs on Demand in the rural areas of 1,685 Net cost positive SDCAs.

(b) to (d) The office of Administrator, USOF has entered into agreements with M/s Reliance Infocomm Limited for provision of Rural Community Phones (RCPs) and provision of rural DELs. It has also entered into agreements with M/s Tata Teleservices Limited and Tata Teleservices Limited (Maharashtra) for provision of rural DELs after their selection through tendering process. Details of the same are given at Annexure-A and B for RCPs and rural DELs respectively.

**ANNEXURE-A**

List of RCPs to be installed by M/s RIL

S1 No	Name of the State (Service Area)	Name of SSA	No. of Villages to be provided with RCP
1	Andhra Pradesh	East Godavari (Rajahmundry)	137
2		Guntur	243
3		Karim Nagar	487
4		Kurnool	302
5		Medak (Sangareddy)	193
6		Nizamabad	16
7		Vishakapatnam	204
8		Vizia Nagaram	133
9		West Godavari (Eluru)	150
10	Bihar	Arrah (Bhojpur)	287
11		Chhapra (Saran)	108
12		Patna	545
13		Sasaram	128
14		Dhanbad	192
15		Munger	211
16		Motihari	374
17		Sahasra	367
18		Katihar	724
19	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh	264
20		Jamsedpur	54
21	Gujarat	Bhavnagar	176
22		Vadodara	124

23	Haryana	Ambala	20
24		Gurgaon	141
25		Hissar	243
26		Karnal	96
27		Rewari (Narnaul)	33
28		Sonepat	64
29		Jind	29
30	Karnataka	Belgaum	253
31		Daksin Kannada (Mangalore)	174
32		Dharwad (Hubli)	147
33		Kodagu (Medikeri)	54
34		Mandya	41
35	Maharashtra	Goa	101
36		Nagpur	49
37		Pune	155
38	Punjab	Bhatinda	70
39		Hosiarpur	4
40		Jalandhar	10
41		Ludhiana	5
42		Pathankot (Gurdaspur)	26
43		Patiala	25
44		Ropar	9
45		Sangrur	76
46	Tamil Nadu	Cuddalore	415
47		Dharmapuri	145
48		Erode	60
49		Karaikudi	104
50		Salem	57
51		Trichy	600
52		Vellore (South Arcot)	388
53	U.P. (EAST)	Allahabad	362
54		Azamgarh	384
55		Ballia	169
56		Barabanki	181
57		Deoria	513
58		Etawah	191
59		Faizabad	188
60		Farrukhabad	182
61		Fatehpur	219
62		Gazipur	247
63		Gonda	207
64		Hardoi	351
65		Kanpur	279
66		Lucknow	118
67		Mainpuri	146
68		Rai bareli	217
69		Sitapur	269
70		Sultanpur	138
71		Unnao	183
72		Varanasi	177
73	U.P. (West)	Aligarh	334
74		Badaun	203
75		Bijnore	66
76		Bareilly	208
77		Etah	233
78		Ghaziabad	635
79		Moradabad	356
80		Meerut	142
81		Mathura	233
82		Muzaffar Nagar	186
83		Pilibhit	84
84		Rampur	95
85		Saharanpur	353
86	Uttaranchal	Chamoli (Kotdwar)	10
87		Nainital	43
88		New Tehri	2
89	West Bengal	Asansol	588
90		Bankura	162
91		Behrampore (Murshidabad)	519
92		Kharagpur (Midnapur)	556
93		Kolkata	1871
94		Krish nagar (Nadia)	301
95		Malda	177
96		Suri	196
97		Purulia	172
		TOTAL	21459

#### ANNEXURE-B

Rural DELs in net cost positive SDCAs -Distribution of SSAs and SDCAs to Successful Bidders

Sl. No.	Name of the	Number of	No. of	No. of eligib	Service Areas in which rural DELs are to be
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successful bidder	Service Areas	SSAs	le SDCAs	provided
1 BSNL	18	171	1267	All States except Haryana
2 RIL	15	61	203	A.P., Bihar, Gujarat, H.P. Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, M.P., Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, U.P. (East), U.P. (West) and West Bengal
3 TTL	08	37	172	Bihar, Haryana, Karnataka, M.P., Punjab, Rajasthan, U.P. (East), U.P. (West)
4 TTL(MH)	01	05	43	Maharashtra
Total		274	1685	