

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:584  
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2013  
TELECOM SERVICES IN NER  
Toppo Shri Joseph

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

- (a) whether the BSNL mobile service in North Eastern States have been affected due to shortage of essential equipments and mobile towers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government for timely supply of telecom equipments to ensure smooth telecom services in these States;
- (d) the details of mobile towers installed and their coverage in the Bordering States with Bangladesh and China; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government to install more mobile towers in these States for better mobile services?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ( Dr.(SMT.) KILLI KRUPARANI)

(a) to (c) The telecom subscribers of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) including the ones in North Eastern States sometimes face problems with regard to Quality of Service (QoS). However, BSNL is, in general, meeting the QoS benchmarks prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). BSNL augments its network based on techno-commercial considerations. However, expansion plan of mobile services of BSNL has got affected due to shortage of equipment in last few years, since BSNL could not procure the GSM based equipment due to cancellation of tenders. Now BSNL has finalized the tenders and is procuring the GSM equipment.

(d) & (e) BSNL augments its network including in North Eastern states based on techno- commercial considerations and enhances its coverage and capacity on continuous basis. The details of number of BTSs of Mobile Telecom Operators including BSNL in North-Eastern States bordering with Bangladesh and China are as follows:

| Telecom Circle | No of BTSs of BSNL covering International Border |
|----------------|--|
|----------------|--|

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| North East -I (consisting of states of Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura),            | 2680  |
| North East -II ( consisting of states of Nagaland, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh), | 657   |
| Assam  | 1424  |
| West Bengal ( including Sikkim state)  | 11628 |