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Title: Need to remove difficulties being faced by telephone users in Kolhapur Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra.

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK (KOLHAPUR): A major part of Kolhapur Parliamentary constituency in Maharashtra is in rural area and is adjacent to Karnataka State. Certain policies of the Telecom Department are causing inconvenience to the people. The rent is charged on capacity of exchange. Rent for telephone in exchange capacity of more than 1000 is Rs.220/- against Rs.100- for smaller places. Exchange capacity does not reflect individual users' financial capacity. This injustice has to be removed. Secondly, people in Inter-State border area cannot use level 95 facility since this facility is not permitted across State borders. As the BSNL is a national Corporation, such restrictions are unjust and unwanted. Thirdly, since landlines have not gone to the remote parts of India, I feel WLL technology will make this possible and BSNL should take the lead and march ahead of other private mobile companies. BSNL rates have to be extremely competitive in comparison to private operators. I feel this will be possible since all technical infrastructure is already in place with BSNL.

Respected Sir, I make this request to the Government and the Telecommunication Minister, through your honour, to remove these anomalies and save the people in rural areas in my constituency from these inconveniences.