

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMUNICATIONS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4396  
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2001  
SHORTAGE OF OPTICAL FIBRE  
ANANTA NAYAK

**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is shortage optical fibre in the country ; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to meet the present requirement in this regard ?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

- (a) Yes Sir, there is shortage of optical fibre cable due to non acceptance of tendered prices by various vendors against 24F/12F optical fibre cable tendered during 2000-2001. Against the requirement of one lakh km of optical fibre cable availability is only approximately 58,000 km.
- (b) Fresh global tender and local tenders have been called to procure additional cable required for the year 2001-2002 and balance cable of year 2000-2001.