

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3686
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2001
CELLULAR PHONE SERVICE
ANANTA NAYAK

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of districts having cellular phone service in Orissa, district-wise;
- (b) whether Government have a proposal to extend cellular telephone service to each district of the State;
- (c) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and
- (d) the time by which cellular telephone service is likely to be provided in each district of the State?

Answer

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

(a) Sir, as per the information provided by Cellular Operator in Orissa, M/s Reliance Telecom Limited, Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) by the company is available in 11 district headquarters and 7 other town/cities as per Annexure.

(b) to (d): Licence for operation of CMTS has also been granted to M/s. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), a Government of India Undertaking. A tender for setting up CMTS in Orissa State by BSNL is under process. As per the present indications, it is expected that the cellular service in the State by BSNL will start from next financial year.

ANNEXURE

CELLULAR COVERAGE IN ORISSA STATE BY M/S. RELIANCE TELECOM LTD. AS ON 7TH DECEMBER, 2001.

Sl. No. Name of the District Headquarters (DHQs) covered Sl. No. Other cities/towns covered

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Cuttack | 1. Paradeep |
| 2. Puri | 2. Jajpur Road |
| 3. Sambalpur | 3. Rourkela |
| 4. Khurda | 4. Bhubaneswar |
| 5. Angul | 5. Berhampur |
| 6. Baleswar | 6. Talcher |
| 7 Baragarh | 7. Burla |
| 8. Chatrapur | |
| 9. Dhenkanal | |
| 10. Jharsuguda | |
| 11. Baripoda | |