

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:981  
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2002  
CELLULAR LICENCES TO COMPANIES  
PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY

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

- (a) the number of phases under which Cellular licences have been given to different Telecom Companies in various cities;
- (b) the number of Cellular lines given in each phase; and
- (c) the norms prescribed for Cellular licences?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Sir, the licences for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service(CMTS) have been granted so far, to private Indian registered companies as well as Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, at 5 different stages.
- (b) The details are given in Annexure-I.
- (c) The salient norms of the CMTS licenses are listed in Annexure-II.

**ANNEXURE-I**

1. Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Lines, as upto 31.01.2002, provided by the Operators, who were granted licences in 1st stage is as follows:

SL.No. Service Area No.of Licensees Name of Licensee Lines Provided  
(Metro City/ As on 31.1.2002  
Telecom Circle)

- 1. DELHI 2 Bharti Cellular Ltd. 5,15,842  
Sterling Cellular Ltd. 3,48,521
- 2. MUMBAI 2 BPL Mobile Communication Ltd. 3,87,428  
Hutchison Max Telecom Ltd. 3,88,287
- 3. KOLKATA 2 Bharti Mobitel Ltd. 98,859  
Usha Maartin Telekom Ltd. 1,41,894
- 4. CHENNAI 2 RPG Cellular Services Ltd. 1,10,380  
Bharti Mobinet Ltd. 1,27,561

2. Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Lines, as upto 31.01.2002, provided by the Operators, who were granted licences in 2nd stage is as follows:

Sl.No. Service Area  
(Metro City/  
TelecomCircle No.of Licensees Name of Licensee Lines provided  
as on 31.1.2002

- 1 Andhra Pradesh 2 Tata Cellular Ltd. 2,36,334  
Bharti Mobile Ltd. 2,17,672
- 2 Assam 1 Reliance Telecom(P) Ltd. 25,889
- 3 Bihar 2 Koshika TelecomPvt. Ltd.+ -  
Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd. 1,06,114
- 4 Gujarat 2 Fascel Ltd. 2,78,526  
Birla AT &T Communications Ltd. 1,57,188
- 5 Haryana 2 Escotel Mobile Communication(P) Ltd. 76,607  
Aircel Digilink India Ltd. 14,423
- 6 Himachal Pradesh2 Bharti Telenet Ltd. 13,170  
Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd. 6,891
- 7 Karnataka 2 Bharti Mobile Ltd. 2,11,440  
Spice Communications Ltd. 1,45,505
- 8 Kerala 2 Escotel Mobile Communication(P) Ltd. 2,04,499  
BPL Mobile Cellular Ltd. 1,50,758
- 9 Maharashtra 2 BPL Mobile Cellular Ltd. 1,72,365  
Birla AT &T Communications Ltd. 2,66,051
- 10 Madhya Pradesh 2 RPG Cellcom Ltd. 61,136  
Reliance Telecom(P) Ltd. 1,23,391
- 11 North East 2 Reliance Telecom(P) Ltd. 3,926  
Hexacom India Ltd. Service not commence.
- 12 Orissa 2 Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd. -  
Reliance Telecom(P) Ltd. 44,666

13 Punjab 2 Spice Communications Ltd. 2,47,974  
 Bharti Mobile Ltd. Service not commence.  
 14 Rajasthan 2 Aircel Digilink India Ltd. 26,961  
 Hexacom India Ltd. 77,440  
 15 Tamil Nadu 2 BPL Mobile Cellular Ltd. 1,27,827  
 Aircel Ltd. 1,51,700  
 16 Uttar Pradesh (West) 2 Escotel Mobile Communication (P) Ltd. 1,82,603  
 Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd.+ -  
 17 Uttar Pradesh (East) 2 Aircel Digilink India Ltd. 45,564  
 Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd. 57,550  
 18 West Bengal 1 Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.s 36,859

Legend:

+ These licences stand terminated for default in payment of licence fee dues.

3. Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Lines, as upto 31.01.2002, provided by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) who was allowed to provide CMTS Service in Delhi and Mumbai Metro Service Area in 3rd stage is as follows:

Sl.No. Service Area (Metro City/Telecom Circle) Lines provided as on 31.1.2002

1	DELHI	55,153
2	MUMBAI	80,259

4. Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Lines, as upto 31.01.2002, provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), who was allowed to provide CMTS Service for 22 Telecom Service Areas (i.e. all over India except Delhi and Mumbai) in 4th stage is as follows:

Sl. No. Service Area (Metro City/Telecom Circle) Lines provided as on 31.1.2002

1	Kolkata	5,580
2	Bihar	7,114

5. In total 17 number of licences were granted at 5th stage. These licencees are yet to commission their service.

Total number of lines provided, as on 31.01.2002, by all operators is 57,37,907.

## ANNEXURE - II

Salient norms of the Cellular Mobile Telephone Service Licence

1. The Licensee must be an Indian company, registered under the Indian companies Act` 1956.
2. The license will be on non-exclusive basis, for a period of 20 years, further extendable by 10 years at one time.
3. The license fee shall be 12% of `Adjusted Gross Revenue` (AGR) for Metro Service Areas and category `A` circles, 10% of AGR for category `B` Circles and 8% of AGR for category `C` Circles, excluding spectrum charges
4. In addition, the cellular licensees shall pay spectrum charges on revenue share basis.
5. Minimum roll-out obligation: In Telecom Circles, at least 10% of the District Headquarters (DHQs) will be covered in the first year and 50% of the District Headquarters will be covered within three years of effective date of License.
6. The LICENSEE shall provide necessary facilities depending upon the specific situation at the relevant time to the Government to counteract espionage, subversive act, sabotage or any other unlawful activity.
7. The LICENSEE shall make available on demand to the person authorized by the LICENSOR, full access to the switching centers, transmission centers, routes etc. for technical scrutiny and for inspection, which can be visual inspection or an operational inspection.
8. The LICENSEE will charge the tariffs for the SERVICE as per the TRAI Tariff orders/regulations/directions issued in this regard from time to time.
9. The licensee shall be permitted to provide, in its area of operation, all types of mobile services including voice and non-voice messages, data services and PCOs utilizing any type of network equipment (however, the technology must be digital), including circuit and/or packet switches, that meet the relevant International Telecommunication Union (ITU)/Telecommunication Engineering Center (TEC) standards.