

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7422
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2002
RURAL TELEPHONY
YEMPARALA VENKATESWARA RAO

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that BSNL operates about 80 lakh telephone lines as on date in rural areas in the country;
- (b) if so, the break-up of these telephone lines, state-wise; and
- (c) the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

Answer

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

- (a) BSNL is operating about 91.5 lakh telephone lines as on 31.3.2002 in rural areas in the country.
- (b) Break-up of these telephone lines, state-wise is furnished in the Annexure.
- (c) An expenditure of approximately Rs. 3100 crores per annum is likely to be incurred for operating these telephone lines.

ANNEXURE

RURAL DELs AS ON 31.3.2002

Sl. No.	Circle	Rural DELs
1	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	16984
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	1028533
3	ASSAM	93119
4	BIHAR	289709
5	CHANDIGARH	47481
6	GUJARAT	677741
7	HARYANA	303482
8	HIMACHAL PRADESH	281111
9	JAMMU & KASHMIR	17952
10	JHARKHAND	63630
11	KARNATAKA	753963
12	KERALA	1580426
13	MADHYA PRADESH	224768
14	MAHARASHTRA	1070526
15	NORTH EAST-I	44486
16	NORTH EAST-II	29561
17	ORISSA	227517
18	PUNJAB	672268
19	RAJASTHAN	507264
20	TAMILNADU	165242
21	UTTARANCHAL	72450
22	UTTAR PRADESH (EAST)	414172
23	UTTAR PRADESH (WEST)	132046
24	WEST BENGAL	443636
25	CALCUTTA	0
26	CHENNAI	0
BSNL	Total	9158067