

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:491
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2003
BAN ON MOBILE PHONE IN J K .
PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;RAMESH CHENNITHALA

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

- (a) whether the Central Government have taken any decision to lift ban on the use of mobile phones in J&K;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether it is also a fact though the ban exists on use of mobile phones in J&K, many prominent persons had been found using mobile phones in the recent past;
- (e) if so, the action taken against such persons; and
- (f) the steps taken to ensure that mobile telephony does not become a security threat in the State?

Answer

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

- (a) to (c): Yes, Sir. The Government decided for provision of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) in Jammu & Kashmir Telecom Circle Service Area and accordingly, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), the only CMTS licensee in the said service area was intimated about the same on 21-08-2002.
- (d) As intimated by BSNL, it is yet to commercially launch CMTS in Jammu & Kashmir Telecom Circle Service Area.
- (e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.
- (f) CMTS Licensees are required to provide the monitoring facilities at their CMTS switches as prescribed by the Government from time to time.