

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMUNICATIONS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2228  
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2000  
IRREGULARITIES IN LAYING OF UNDERGROUND CBALES  
SUSHILA SAROJ

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

- (a) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding irregularities committed and non compliance of prescribed norms by the Bihar State telecom Circle, Patna in laying of underground cable in Darbhanga city and other districts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have issued any directions to stop the work as the land dug for laying of cable was not filled;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry regarding cable laying work by the contractors;
- (f) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS(SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) A complaint was published in daily `Hindustan`, Patna edition dated 5th June, 2000 alleging irregularities in the laying of underground cables in Darbhanga SSA.
- (c) & (d): No, Sir. No such incident of land dug for laying of cable was found unfilled.
- (e) to (g): Yes, Sir. Investigation has shown that in some cases, the actual depth has been found to be less than the norms prescribed due to the existing cables and for other reasons. However, payments have been made for the actual depth laid as per the measurements recorded and no malafide intention has been noticed.