

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1026  
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2004  
OPTIMUM UTILISATION OF CAPACITY OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGES  
Modi Shri Sushil Kumar

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

- (a) Whether the telephone exchanges in the country especially in Bhagalpur, Bihar, are not making optimum utilization of their capacity;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the functioning of the said telephone exchanges;
- (d) the number of applications pending for new connections with these telephone exchanges; and
- (e) the time by which all these pending applications are likely to be cleared?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a) to (c) While most of the telephone exchanges in the country are making optimum utilization of their capacity, utilization is less in some cases due to factors such as opening of more remote units near customer premises to reduce fault rate, keeping spare capacity for providing telephones on demand and so on. The capacity of Bhagalpur Exchange is 31,000 and its loading is 22,500 i.e. 72.6% loading. For Bihar circle, the capacity utilization figure is around 71.9% as on 31.3.2004.
- (d) The number of applications pending for new connections in Bhagalpur is 123 which are in technically non-feasible areas.
- (e) The pending applications which are technically feasible would be cleared by June 2005.