

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5834
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2005
SHORTAGE OF SIM CARDS IN KARNATAKA
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a severe shortage of SIM cards to meet the demands of BSNL mobile phones in Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, District-wise;
- (c) the steps taken by the Union Government to address the problem;
- (d) the target fixed in this regard for the year 2004-05, State-wise, particularly in Karnataka; and
- (e) extent to which the target has been achieved so far?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Although adequate quantity of SIMs are available, due to capacity constraints, further release of cellular connections has been temporarily controlled. However, 709362 mobile connections are working in the State of Karnataka.

(c) Augmentation of the cellular network by an additional capacity of 9.6 lakh lines is in progress and likely to be available progressively from June 2005 onwards.

(d) & (e) The state-wise details of targets assigned and achieved in 2004-05 are given in the Annexure.

ANNEXURE

STATE-WISE TARGET/ACHIEVEMENT FOR 2004-05

Sl. No.	State	Target 2004-05	Achievement 2004-05
1	Andaman and Nicobar	6900	3245
2	Andhra Pradesh	459700	246790
3	Assam	168600	125805
4	Bihar	278300	84660
5	Chhattisgarh	67400	22817
6	Gujarat	563000	184836
7	Himachal Pradesh	89200	30175
8	Haryana	247000	94256
9	Jammu & Kashmir	49100	110640
10	Jharkhand	112000	63134
11	Kerala	428000	428188
12	Karnataka	346400	379166
13	Maharashtra including Goa	719500	242255
14	Madhya Pradesh	202200	120322
15	North East-I (Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram)	46650	37996
16	North East-II (Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur)	46650	37143
17	Orissa	225200	129541
18	Punjab	429000	91258
19	Rajasthan	412700	150105
20	Tamil Nadu	639300	735249
21	Uttaranchal	109900	46393
22	Uttar Pradesh	767600	491888
23	West Bengal including Sikkim	585700	337378
	Total	7000000	4193240
