

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3899

ANSWERED ON:17.05.2006

SETTING UP OF MOBILE PHONE TOWERS

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

- (a) the total number of mobile phone towers functioning in each State at present;
- (b) whether due to shortage of mobile towers or low capacity towers, the mobile phone service is not functioning properly in the rural areas of several States;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) The total number of Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) service area-wise, as reported by mobile service providers, is given in the Annexure.

(b) to (d) The extensive coverage up to Block Headquarters including coverage of important National Highways, Railway Routes and State Highways is providing coverage in vast areas of rural population. The continuous and progressive rollout of the mobile network would provide further improved and enhanced coverage in rural areas.

With the expansion of subscriber base, mobile networks are to be upgraded by the service providers to meet Quality of Service (QoS) standards. This is a continuous process in terms of re-engineering of network by addition of more Base Stations, adopting techniques such as installation of boosters and adoption of micro cell architecture etc.

The Government has also taken steps to simplify procedures for clearance of sites for installation of towers.

Annexure

Number of BTSs reported by mobile service providers as on 31st March, 2006

Sl Service Area Number of BTSs
No

1	Delhi	4561
2	Mumbai	3845
3	Chennai	2690
4	Kolkata	2323
5	Maharashtra (including Goa)	5148
6	Gujarat	5114
7	Andhra Pradesh	5234
8	Karnataka	5705
9	Tamil Nadu (including Pondichery)	5149
10	Kerala	3958
11	Punjab	4568
12	Haryana	1961
13	U.P.(West) (including Uttaranchal)	3230
14	U.P. (East)	3935
15	Rajasthan	3205
16	Madhya Pradesh (including Chhattisgarh)	2554
17	West Bengal (including Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar)	2754
18	Himachal Pradesh	920
19	Bihar (including Jharkhand)	1825
20	Orissa	1794
21	Assam	1090

22	North East	529
23	Jammu & Kashmir	781
	Total	72873

Note:

1. M/s Reliance Infocomm Limited started services only in the beginning of this year in J&K and their data is not available.
2. Above figures do not contain BTSs of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) Code Division Multiplex Access (CDMA) network.