

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4027
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2004
BSNL FACILITY IN WEST BENGAL
Barman Shri Hiten

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

- (a) whether the BSNL facility is available in all the districts of Cooch Behar of West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the total number of SIM cards provided in Cooch Behar;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which all the districts of Cooch Behar are likely to be covered by BSNL facility;
- (d) whether the Government is contemplating to enhance WLL facility in urban areas of Cooch Behar;
- (e) if so, the time by which the said service will be started; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has provided Cellular Mobile facility to all the districts of West Bengal including Cooch Behar. Cooch Behar district has a capacity of 7500 and being extended to 8500 covering all Sub divisional Head Quarter as well. As on date 8850 SIM Cards have been issued in the district.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The WLL facility is already available in four SDHQ and the same is likely to be available in the remaining SDHQ viz Tufan Ganj by the end of current financial year.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.