

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2136
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2006
WAITING LIST FOR TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS
Pathak Shri Brajesh

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

- (a) the number of telephone connections sanctioned by the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL)/the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in the country during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the number of telephone connections released out of them, State-wise;
- (c) the number of applicants in the waiting list during the current year, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to clear the waiting list?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) The number of State-wise telephone connections sanctioned and released by MTNL and BSNL during the last three years are given in Annexure-I.
- (c) The State-wise number of applicants in the waiting list during the current year are given in Annexure-II.
- (d) The following steps have been taken to clear the waiting list:
 - (i) Underground cable up to 5 kilometers of telephone exchange against the earlier standard of 2.5 kilometers has been restored for providing telephone connections on landline.
 - (ii) Deployment of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) network has been planned in the left over as Short Distance Charging Areas (SDCAs) and additional WLL network in existing SDCAs to meet the demand of telephone connections beyond five kilometers of telephone exchange. This will cover the scattered and far-flung areas where telephone connection is not possible on landline.