

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2140
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2007
BROADBAND INTERNET CONNECTIONS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the MTNL/BSNL Broadband Internet Connection is provided to people on demand;
- (b) if so, the number of Broadband Internet Connections provided in the country till date, State-wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the number of persons in the waiting list for the said connections in the country, State-wise;
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for providing the said connections;
- (f) whether there is acute shortage of broadband Modems in the BSNL;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) Broadband connections are available on demand in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) except in some exchanges where the port capacity has been exhausted. As on 31.07.2007, the number of broadband internet connections provided by MTNL in Delhi and Mumbai are 2,49,790 and 2,58,594 respectively.

The broadband service of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is presently available in 1035 cities catering to 1.024 million customers and due to capacity constraints, the connections are not available on demand.

The number of Broadband Internet Connections provided and the number of persons in the waiting list for the said connections in the country till date, State-wise is given in the Annexure.

(e) In 2006-07, MTNL had planned expansion of its Broadband network in Delhi and Mumbai by 500K (through open tender) and 300K (from M/s ITI against reservation quota) respectively. However, M/s ITI could supply only 42.7K ports equipment.

In order to meet the demand of Mumbai, out of 500K equipment meant for Delhi, 200K has been diverted to Mumbai. P.O. for the same has already been placed on 30.04.2007 and most of the equipment is in pipeline. Vendor is being asked to install/commission on priority to wipe off waiting list of Mumbai.

BSNL has already initiated steps for augmenting its countrywide broadband capacity by 2.6 millions.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) & (h) Do not arise in view of (f) above.