

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2911  
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2007  
LAYING OF OPTICAL FIBRE CABLE  
Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

- (a) whether all the telephone exchanges in the country have Optical Fibre Cable (OFC);
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise;
- (c) the amount allocated for laying Optical Fibre Cable for providing telephones on demand during the last three years; and
- (d) the area likely to be covered in kms by laying Optical Fibre Cable in the country specially in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra during the said period?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b) Sir, all the main exchanges and Remote Switching Units (RSUs) of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (operating in the metro areas of Delhi and Mumbai) are connected on Optical Fibre Cable (OFC). In addition, MTNL has also laid Fibre Cable in the access network for Digital Loop Carriers (DLC) and Digital Subscriber Line Access Multiplexer (DSLAM).

In BSNL, as on date, 96% telephone exchanges in the country have Optical Fibre Cable. State-wise details are given in the Annexure.

(c) Total amount allocated by BSNL for laying OFC for providing telephones on demand during the 3 years is as follows;

Year	Amount Allocated by BSNL (Rs. In Crores)
2005-06	2553.71
2006-07	4026.98
2007-08	3302.13

In MTNL, there is no waiting list for telephone connections and no case is pending for want of OFC. However, MTNL is laying cable to augment existing capacities to meet the growing traffic demand.

(d) Detail of area covered/likely to be covered (in Kms) by BSNL by laying Optical Fibre Cable in the country during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 are given below:

	2005-06 (Km)	2006-07 (Km)	2007-08 (Km)
Whole of Country	18256.61	27100.00	12933.81
Uttar Pradesh	2027.80	2851.91	1992.35
Maharashtra	1068.53	1535.09	910.90