

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:19
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2004
FUNCTIONING OF RURAL TELEPHONE
Nayak Shri Ananta

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

- (a) Whether most of the rural telephones in Keonjhar district in Orissa are frequently remaining out of order;
- (b) if so, the reasons for the same; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken for the smooth functioning of these rural telephones?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) No, Sir. Rural telephones in Keonjhar District in Orissa are mostly working satisfactorily. However, sometimes WLL (Wireless in Local Loop) telephones are affected due to a poor electric supply conditions in villages.

(c) Following steps are being taken for further improvement of functioning of rural telephones:-

i) Conversion of SBM (Single Base Module) exchanges into RSUs (Remote Switching Units).

ii) Conversion of C-DOT 256 Port exchanges into AN-RAXs (Access Network-Rural Automatic Exchanges).

iii) Centralized fault booking at SDCC (Short Distance Charging Centre), through IVRS (Interactive Voice Response System).

iv) Provision of maintenance free battery sets.

v) All exchanges having digital reliable media.

vi) Provision of Engine Alternators in the exchanges.