

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1783

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STRENGTHENING OF TELECOM SERVICES

Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh;Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Rathod Shri Ramesh

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

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to take steps to strengthen the Telecom services in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the present status of Telecom services in the country, State-wise;
- (d) whether the expansion work of Telecom network in the country especially in rural areas is far from satisfaction; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, State-wise and the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

(a) & (b) Madam, to strengthen the Telecom services in the country, BSNL has planned to provide 180 lakh connections of Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM) mobile connections and 25 lakh connections of Broadband during this financial year. Further, BSNL has planned to provide 200 lakh GSM mobile connections and 75 lakh Broadband connections during 2010-11. Circle wise details are given in Annexue-1.

The revised Annual Plan targets for expansion of telephone and internet services in MTNL for 2009-10 are as under:

Sl. No.	Items targets	Physical Delhi	Mumbai	Total
1	Net new connections including WLL & cellular connections	500K	500K	1000K
2	Net switching capacity including capacity for WLL & GSM	500K	500K	1000K
3	Deployment of DSLAM/ FTTH ports	200K	200K	400K

(c) The status of Telecom services of BSNL in the country, Circle-wise as on 31.01.2010 is given in Annexure-II.

Subscriber base of MTNL as on January 2010 are as follows:

Delhi Mumbai

Fixed Line 1567096 2047452
GSM 2189841 2420486
CDMA (M) 112006 71903
Broadband 369342 414218
Internet 621010 871180

(d) & (e) The Circle-wise achievement of Telecom network by BSNL in the country in rural areas during the last three years and the current year is given in Annexure-III.

However, constraints and problems faced in providing telecom network in rural areas are as under:-

- i) Poor availability of infrastructure like Electric power supply and approach roads which is affecting development of telecom.
- ii) Socio-economic status of rural population.

iii) Most of the demand of telephone connection in rural areas is distributed and from far- flung scattered areas where laying of telecom network is techno-commercially non-viable.

MTNL does not provide services in rural areas.