

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3768
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2010
RURAL TELEPHONE SECTOR
Hazari Shri Maheshwar ;Singh Shri Dhananjay

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

- (a) whether, the Government has undertaken the modernisation work in Rural Telephone Sector in the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Bihar; and
- (c) the benefits likely to be accrued to the said work in the rural areas of the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. BSNL has undertaken various steps for modernisation work in rural telecom stctor. Major steps are following:-

- (i) Conversion of C-DOT Rural Automatic Exchanges (RAXs) into Access Network RAXs (ANRAXs).
- (ii) Conversion of Single Base Module (SBM) to Remote Switching Units (RSUs).
- (iii) Multy Access Radio Relay (MARR) Village Public Telephone (VPT) replacement. Details are given in Annexure-I, II and HI.

(c): The following benefits are likely to be accrued in the rural areas of the country:-

- (i) Increase in rural teledensity and broadband density;
- (ii) Socio-economic and educational development;
- (iii) Improvement in the quality of telecom connectivity.