

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2402  
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2010  
BSNL TOWER ON INDO-PAK BORDER  
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Sugavanam Shri E.G.

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) tower in the vicinity of Indo-Pak Border;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the telecom companies have to seek permission from the Government for setting up of towers in the said area;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether the Government has also any proposal to reduce the call rates for para-military personnel manning International Border of the country;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard and to improve the network connectivity in the said area of the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

- (a) Yes, Madam.
- (b) Total number of 104 Towers are proposed to be setup by BSNL in the vicinity of Indo-Pak border in the states of Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat during the year 2010-11.
- (c) Yes, Madam.
- (d) BSNL has to seek permission/approval from Army authorities for setting up of towers in the above said Border area.
- (e) Does not arise in view of (c) & (d) above.
- (f) No, Madam.
- (g) Does not arise in view of (f) above.
- (h) BSNL is augmenting its mobile network progressively so as to enhance coverage capacity and to improve the Quality of Service in the country including the Indo-Pak Border. BSNL is also optimizing its network continuously for its performance.