

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3366

ANSWERED ON:16.03.2011

INSTALLATION OF TOWERS

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

- (a) the number of mobile towers functioning in the country as on date, company-wise and State-wise;
- (b) whether the BSNL has not installed any tower in some States including Bihar during the last two years and as a result of which it is lagging behind in competition to its private counterparts;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise;
- (d) the number of towers likely to be installed by BSNL and MTNL alongwith their proposed capacity during the current year, State-wise including Bihar; and
- (e) the action taken by the BSNL and the MTNL to improve their mobile signal quality and also to operationalize their non-functioning towers?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Madam, the number of Base Transmitting Stations (BTS) functioning through mobile towers in the country as on date, are 5,88,077. Company-wise and State-wise details are given in Annexure-I and II respectively.
- (b) BSNL has installed mobile towers in all States including Bihar during the last two years.
- (c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.
- (d) Telecom licenses are granted Telecom Circle-wise. Telecom Circles are co-terminus with States however some circles encompass more than one State. Circle-wise, mobile towers installed and capacity added by BSNL, during the current financial year is given in Annexure-III. The number of towers proposed to be installed/shared during current year by MTNL is 300.
- (e) GSM based Cellular Mobile Telephone Service being provided by BSNL is working satisfactorily in its Licensed Service Areas and is, in general, meeting the Quality of Service (QoS) parameters prescribed by TRAI. BSNL is augmenting its mobile network progressively so as to enhance coverage, capacity and to further improve the Quality of Service. BSNL is also optimizing its network continuously for its performance.

In MTNL, QoS improvement is a continuous process. Measures like BTS addition, capacity augmentation & upgradation, antenna tilting, optimization of network and drive test are under taken on a continuous basis to improve the mobile services. MTNL is also making efforts with concerned civic authorities for de-sealing of mobile towers to make it operational.