

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1441
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2011
TELECOM FACILITIES
Lal Shri Kirodi ;Pangi Shri Jayaram

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide telecommunications systems in remote, tribal and naxal affected areas in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the action plan in this regard; and
- (c) the number of Mobile Towers set up in these areas so far and proposed to be set up for improving telecom facilities to these areas; State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) & (c) A scheme was launched by Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund to provide subsidy support for setting up and managing 7353 number of infrastructure sites /towers in 500 districts spread over 27 states for provision of mobile services in the specified rural and remoe areas. Villages or cluster of villages having population of 2000 or more and not having mobile coverage were taken into consideration for installation of the tower under this scheme. As on 31.10.2011, 7290 towers have been set up under this scheme. Out of these 7290 Towers, 671 Mobile Towers have been set up in Left Wingh Extremism (LWE) affected areas as per details in Annexure-I. Further, as on 31.03.2011, out of 37,184 uncovered villages having no mobile coverage inthe country, 31,564 villages are inhabited. These villages are proposed to be covered in the next phase and USOF is in the process of formulation of a new scheme for providing mobile communication services in thee villages with financial support from USOF. Under this scheme, financial, support by USOF is also envisaged to provide mobile communication services in 9 LWE affected states at 2,199 LWE affected locations. Out of 2199 locations, at 301 location already radiating Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) are existing. The State-wise details of inhabited Villages/LWE affected areas proposed to be covered with mobile Communication are given in Annexure-II.