

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1161
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2009
EXPANSION OF CDMA NETWORK
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to expand CDMA based network in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the benefits likely to be accrued by the subscribers as a result of this expansion of service; and
- (d) the amount of funds likely to be spent thereon?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Sir, the Government policy is technology neutral and operators can choose CDMA or GSM technology. In BSNL, 19.21 lakh lines of CDMA based WLL equipments are under various stage of supply/installation/commissioning for the year 2009-2010. MTNL is not planning to expand the core equipment of its CDMA network in near future. However, augmentation of WLL towers and their capacities is a continuous process for providing better coverage.

(c) The coverage of WLL in the country of BSNL will be strengthened with above mentioned capacity expansion, as a result of which the service will improve. MTNL has planned to add 10 number of WLL towers in Mumbai during 2009-10.

(d) BSNL has planned to spend Rs. 349.31 crores on procurement of 19.2 lakh lines CDMA WLL equipment during 2009-10.

The addition of 10 number of towers by MTNL Mumbai is a part of its 400,000 lines network expansion plan costing Rs. 122.91 crores.