

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4325

ANSWERED ON:19.12.2012

TELECOM SERVICES IN THE COUNTRY

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram; Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal; Kashinath Shri Taware Suresh; Pandurang Shri Munde Gopinathrao; Rane Dr. Nilesh Narayan; Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

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

- (a) whether there are any disparity in expansion of telecom services in the various States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the teledensity in each State, State-wise including Maharashtra and Gujarat;
- (c) whether the Government has received proposals from the various State Governments for expansion and augmentation of telecom network, particularly in remote and rural areas in their respective States;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, project and State-wise including Maharashtra and Gujarat; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Union Government for expansion and augmentation of telecom services in left out and poor network areas in Maharashtra and Gujarat and the funds allocated for the same, State-wise?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b) The details of Service area-wise tele-density are given in Annexure-I.

(c) to (e) Yes, Madam. Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) has received proposals from various States for setting up of mobile towers for provisioning of mobile services in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas. State-wise summary of requests for setting up of mobile towers for provisioning of mobile services, as received from different States are given in Annexure-II. As per the survey carried out by TERM Cells of Department of Telecommunications (DoT), about 50,000 villages in the country do not have mobile coverage. 5395 villages in Maharashtra and 1938 villages in Gujarat do not have mobile coverage, at present. A scheme is being envisaged to extend financial support from USO fund for provisioning of mobile communication services in all uncovered villages of the country. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed on 01.11.2012 with C-DoT (Centre for Development of Telematics) for providing technical consultancy for the scheme. USOF shall take further necessary action after receiving the report from C-DoT.