

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:590

ANSWERED ON:27.02.2013

TELEPHONE EXCHANGES AND MOBILE TOWERS

Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Mahto Shri Baidyanath Prasad

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

- (a) the details of telephone exchanges and mobile towers in the country, Statewise and circle-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has proposed to set up new telephone exchanges and install mobile towers in some parts of various districts in Bihar and Jharkhand;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State and location-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has received any proposal for installation of towers near India and Nepal border; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

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

- (a) The License Service Area (LSA) – wise detail of telephone exchanges and mobile Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) in the country (total for all the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) is enclosed as Annexure.
- (b) & (c) In view of the already available sufficient spare capacity, no new wire line telephone exchange has been planned in Bihar LSA by BSNL. However BSNL has proposed to expand the GSM capacity of Bihar LSA by 10 Lac lines (7,50,000 lines in Bihar and 2,50,000 lines in Jharkhand) under phase VII. Besides, Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) also plans to install mobile towers in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas including 184 locations in Bihar and 782 locations in Jharkhand.
- (d) & (e) Prior to July 2008, No service zone of 500 Meters width along the International border within Indian territory for wireless/mobile service was there. Vide letter dated 11.07.2008 Department of Telecom (DoT) has lifted the restriction and accordingly TSPs are permitted to deploy their telecom equipments in border areas including Indo-Nepal border as per their techno-commercial interests, however, they have to ensure that their radio signal(s) fade out or become unusable within a reasonable distance across such borders. Proposals in this respect are not required to be sent to the Government.