

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3899

ANSWERED ON:20.03.2013

POOR MOBILE NETWORK

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

- (a) whether the mobile signals in various telecom districts/circles are very poor and people are facing lot of difficulties due to non-availability of clear mobile signals;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of Base Transmitting Stations (BTS) installed by each of the telecom operators in their service area, State and telecom circle-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has received proposals from various State Governments for installation of BTS and Digital Satellite Phone Terminals (DSPTs) in their States;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon along with the new BTS and DSPTs proposed to be set up, State-wise;
- (f) whether the Government has directed all telecom service providers to ensure that at least half of all their towers in rural areas use hybrid power sources; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the present position in this regard, State-wise?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) are obliged to roll out their services in 50% of the total districts of their own choice by covering the District Head Quarter (DHQ) or any other town in lieu of DHQ. Further expansion of network beyond roll out obligations is to be done by the TSPs as per their techno-commercial interests. However, as per the recent survey approx 56000 villages are yet to covered by adequate mobile services.

TRAI monitors the performance of Service Providers against the benchmarks for the various quality of service parameters laid down by TRAI through Regulations issued from time to time, through quarterly performance monitoring reports, audit and assessment of quality of service by independent agencies and assessment of customer perception of service through surveys. As per the performance monitoring report for the quarter ending 31st Dec 2012 based on the data provided by the service providers, the cellular mobile service providers are generally complying with the quality of service benchmarks for the network related parameters for the service area as a whole.

(c) Licence Service Area (LSA) wise and Telecom Service Provider wise details of BTSes as on 31.01.2013 are enclosed as Annexure-I and Annexure-II respectively.

(d) Yes, Madam.

(e) Proposals in Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, NE-I (service area) and Odisha state governments have been received for installation of DSPT. BSNL had floated a tender for installation of DSPT in these areas and the Purchase Order has been placed with M/s Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd (TCIL).

Regarding installation of BTSs, a survey of Left wing extremism (LWE) areas was carried out through BSNL, as per the request of Security agencies of different states, and a proposal for installation of BTSs at 2199 sites by BSNL is under consideration for funding by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) scheme.

(f) & (g) Vide DoT letter no 800-61/2012-VAS dated 23.01.12 and 16-6/2011-CS-III dated 04.01.12 all the TSPs have been directed that:

At least 50% of all rural towers and 20% of the urban towers are to be powered by hybrid power (Renewable Energy Technologies (RET) + Grid power) by 2015, while 75% of rural towers and 33% of urban towers are to be powered by hybrid power by 2020.

Regarding present status the information is being collected.