

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:37
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2014
SETTING UP OF MOBILE PHONE TOWERS
Chinnaraj Shri Gopalakrishnan

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up new mobile phone towers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of towers to be set up, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has allocated any funds in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. A project is being implemented to provide mobile services in 2199 locations (1836 new sites and 363 sites already installed by BSNL in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas in various states. The State-wise details are attached as Annexure -I. There is another project to implement a Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-East region. The Project envisages to provide mobile coverage to 8621 identified uncovered villages and installation of 321 mobile tower sites along National Highways and strengthening of transmission network in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. Both the projects are being funded by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

(c) & (d) The estimated project implementation cost in respect of LWE affected areas project is Rs. 3567.58 Crores and the estimated project implementation cost in respect of Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-East region is Rs. 5336.18 Crores.

(e) The installation of Mobile Towers and Roll out of mobile services in LWE affected areas is to be completed by 30-09-2015. The Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-East region is to be completed by June, 2017.