

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1593

ANSWERED ON:29.07.2015

WLL Services

Nete Shri Ashok Mahadeorao

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

- (a) whether Wireless Local Loop (WLL) telecommunication services have been made available in rural areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof as on date, State-wise, including Maharashtra;
- (c) whether the WLL services are inactive in many rural areas of the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to expand the WLL service and to make the service effective?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) License/ Unified Access Services License (UASL)/ Unified Licenses (UL) issued to Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) permits the licensees to provide services using any technologies including WLL. Many TSPs have been providing WLL Telecommunication Services in both rural and urban areas in the country including Maharashtra.
- (b) The existing number of WLL subscribers, State-wise, is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.
- (c) to (d) WLL Telecommunication Services were primarily used in place of landline telephone connections in those areas, where telephone cables were either not available or it was not feasible to provide landline connections in such areas. With the advent and penetration of affordable mobile services, most of the WLL subscribers have migrated to mobile connections having hand held devices and thus there have been negative growth of WLL subscribers. Eventually, the TSPs have started shutting down their WLL services depending on their business decision.
- (e) In view of reply to part (c) to (d) above, no action is required to be taken by the Government for expanding the WLL service and to make the service effective.

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