

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2617

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2014

WAITING LISTS FOR TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the inordinate delay/ waiting lists for providing landline telephone connections and internet connections to subscribers by various service providers including Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL);
- (b) if so, the details thereof especially in suburban and rural areas of the country, State-wise including Maharashtra and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding increasing future demand of telephone and internet connection in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide connections to all the waitlisted subscribers?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), in general, have reported that there is no inordinate delay/waiting lists for providing landline telephone connections and internet connections to subscribers. The State-wise details of waiting list for wireline connections in respect of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is attached as Annexure-I

(c) to (e) The Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) make assessment regarding future demands of telephone and internet requirements based upon their commercial and business viabilities. Further, BSNL has made assessment of demand and accordingly,has planned to provide 15 lakh new wireline connections and about 16 lakh new broadband connections in the financial year 2014-15. As per information received from BSNL,it has taken various steps to provide connections to waitlisted subscribers which inter-alia include arranging materials such as underground copper cable and telephone instruments.