

**Title: Need to declare Bagalkot as a separate telecom district in Karnataka - Laid.**

**SHRI R.S. PATIL (BAGALKOT) :** The telephones in Bagalkot district come under Bijapur district in Karnataka. Now, Sir, Bagalkot is a separate district in the State. Both Centre and State have to allocate more funds for the development of this new district. We had, in fact, earlier written to the then Hon'ble Minister of Communication requesting him to make Bagalkot district a separate telecom district. This is a genuine request and most of the revenue (communications) for Bijapur area comes from Talukas of Bagalkot district. The subscribers also are facing lot of problems. They have to go to Bijapur all the way even for a small transaction. The subscribers particularly from rural areas are not in a position to go to Bijapur to settle their bill accounts etc. Even accounts section with an Account Officer has not been set up in Bagalkot till today despite our repeated requests. Hence there is an urgent need to form Bagalkot as a separate Telecom district.

I, therefore, urge upon the Hon'ble Minister of Communications to declare Bagalkot as a separate Telecom District without any further delay.