Title: Need to provide telephone connectivity in suburban and rural areas of Karimganj and Hailakandi districts in Assam and other parts of the country.

SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLABAIDYA (KARIMGANJ): It is one of the important items in the agenda of the Government to provide telephone connectivity to all uncovered villages within the timeframe of 3 years. But when we approached the concerned Department in Karimganj constituency for extension of telephone connection in rural and sub-urban areas, we got a reply that there was no stock of cable since last one year. In this context, I fail to understand what the shortcomings are, whether cable production in the country has been reduced or there is problem in the transportation. There is dire necessity as well as persistent demand for telephone connection in rural and sub-urban areas. Even in some rural areas, I am told, money for security deposits was collected but the telephone services have not been installed.

In the circumstances, I would very earnestly request the hon. Minister of Communication and Information Technology to kindly take suitable action to remove the bottlenecks so that we get sufficient cable for Karimganj and Hailkandi District in Assam to establish telephone connectivity in the rural and sub-urban areas in Karimganj constituency.