

Mobile services in A.P.

1644. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Telecom plans to introduce mobile services in the State during the current year,

(b) if so, whether the State Government has state that instead of concentrating on city and urban areas, the company would be launching its services in the rural areas;

(c) if so, the extent to which mobile services in the rural areas have been successful; and

(d) the extent to which the company has been able to offer the services to rural and backward areas in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir..

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) BSNL is yet to launch its Cellular Mobile services in the State of Andhra Pradesh. As regard basic services operations, the number of fixed lines working in rural/backward areas as on 30.6.2002 are 10,37,366. About 80% of the villages are covered with Village Public Telephone Facility and about 96% of the populations is having access to Telecom facility.

Report of the NASSCOM and MACKINSE on I.T.

†1645. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether government are aware of the report brought by NASSCOM and McKinsey regarding information technology industry;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.