

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	2004-05	358.59	110.75	40.15	11.38
3.	2005-06	354.23	197.37	38.33	21.03
4.	2006-07	337.39	309.85	37.22	29.45
5.	2007-08	315.52	407.87	36.76	35.34
6.	2008-09	293.46	521.44	35.73	44.83
7.	2009-10	278.31	694.50	34.97	50.94
8.	2010-11	252.25	918.34	34.64	54.79
9.	2011-12 (upto 30.6.2011)	247.25	937.28	34.43	55.06

**Private operators not complying with rural connectivity clause**

1434. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) by when private mobile/landline operators would comply with the rural connectivity clause they had promised to undertake when they were given operating licences in the country; and

(b) the manner in which the Ministry proposes to penalise them, if they have not complied with the rural connectivity obligations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Sir, private Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) operators provides mobile services and Unifies Access Service (UAS) operators are permitted to provide mobile as well as landline service. CMTS/UAS Licence Agreement conditions *inter alia* provide that, there is no requirement of mandatory coverage of rural areas.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

**Mobile phone connectivity in Tribal areas**

1435. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) by when all the mobile towers in Tribal areas would be activated, especially in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Orissa;

(b) how many blocks in Tribal areas of Central India, still don't have mobile telephone connectivity;

- (c) by when all in the country will have at least mobile connectivity; and
- (d) the details thereof, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) As on date, all the mobile towers installed by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in the tribal areas including Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas of Orissa, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh have been activated except 12 in Jharkhand and 62 in Chhattisgarh. Action has been initiated to commission these remaining mobile towers by 31.10.2011.

(b) BSNL is providing GSM (Global System for Mobile Communications) based cellular mobile service in all the Blocks of Tribal areas of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh except for one Block in Chhattisgarh. Action has been initiated to provide mobile Coverage in the said Block during the current year.

(c) and (d) In terms of License for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service, a licensee is required to provide mobile coverage in 50% of the District Headquarters within three years of effective date of License. Further expansion beyond 50% shall lie with the Licensee depending on their business decision. BSNL has complied with the said roll out obligation and augments coverage based on its techno-commercial decisions.

#### **Manufacture of low radiation mobile handsets**

†1436. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of mobile phone consumers is continuously increasing in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the mobile handsets being used currently emit radiation which causes health hazards;
- (d) if so, whether Government has any proposal to formulate any policy to manufacture low radiation or radiation free handsets; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of mobile phone consumers is continuously increasing in the country as per details given below:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.