

(e) whether non-availability of telecom equipments is hampering the growth of this sector in Bihar; and

(f) the steps taken by BSNL to speed up process of procurement so that BSNL does not lag behind other private operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has an equipped Global System for Mobile communication (GSM) capacity of 22,65,684 lines and Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) capacity of 2,36,250 lines in Bihar Telecom Circle. For future expansion, BSNL has allocated 7,50,000 lines of GSM and nil for WLL in Bihar Telecom Circle. BSNL makes the assessment for allocation after analysis of mobile traffic, available capacity and the criteria for running congestion in existing network and for providing coverage to some additional areas.

(c) and (d) Details of last two purchase orders placed by Bihar Telecom Circle of BSNL for GSM equipments are as follows:

2007-08

- 4 Purchase Orders Placed for 1022 BTSs (Base Transceiver Stations)
- 3 Purchase Orders placed for 391 BTSs.

2008-09

- 4 Purchase Orders placed for 799 BTSs (3G)

All Purchase Orders have been fully executed, except 4 Purchase Orders for 799 BTSs (3G).

(e) and (f) During the last few years, the growth of mobile services of BSNL in Bihar Telecom Circle has witnessed downward trend due many reasons including the delay in procurement of mobile equipment. However, during 2012-13, tender for procurement of mobile equipment in North/South and East Zone has been finalized by BSNL

GSM based mobile connectivity of BSNL in Bihar

2391. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the present geographical area and population that is catered to by GSM based mobile connectivity of BSNL in Bihar;
- (b) the steps taken to provide adequate telecom equipments by BSNL in Bihar Telecom circle to meet/cover all GSM subscribers;
- (c) the requirement of 2G and 3G Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) for Bihar Telecom circle as have been assessed and out of it how many are in position at present; and
- (d) the steps being taken to augment the infrastructure and provide required equipment to meet the shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) covers 68% of geographical area and about 65 million of population in Bihar through Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) based mobile connectivity.

(b) to (d) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) augments its capacity for mobile network based on techno-commercial considerations. Presently, Bihar Telecom Circle of BSNL has GSM based equipped capacity of 22,65,684 lines. However, to augment the mobile infrastructure, BSNL has finalised tender for procurement of mobile equipment in North/South and East Zone during the 2012-13.

Broadband for villages

2392. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to set apart ₹ 20,000 crores for reaching out broadband to around 2.5 lakh villages in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of villages that would be covered in Odisha and other such underdeveloped States; and
- (d) the details of other such facilities that are proposed to be created in the farflung rural areas to help the villagers remain updated about latest developments in the country?