

at an estimated cost of ₹ 350 crores for which MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) has been signed between C-DOT and BSNL.

- Government has assigned the work of providing mobile connectivity in 2199 identified locations in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas through BSNL at an estimated cost of ₹ 3567.58 crores.
- Government has assigned the work of providing mobile connectivity to uncovered villages in Arunachal Pradesh and two districts of Assam to BSNL on nomination basis at an estimated cost of ₹ 1975.38 crores.

The new projects of MTNL are:

- Augmentation of mobile network to enhance coverage and capacity by adding 1080 3G sites and 800 2G sites in Delhi and 1080 3G sites and 566 2G sites in Mumbai. The packet core capacity (Data handling capacity of network) will be upgraded to 10 Gbps in Delhi and Mumbai.
- Augmentation of Microwave (M/W) backhaul network to support the enhanced speed.
- Migration of legacy telephone exchanges network to internet protocol (IP) based New Generation Network (NGN) exchanges in collaboration with C-DOT.

In addition, BSNL and MTNL are taking various steps to improve their mobile network. The details of these steps are as follows:

- Monitoring of the Fault Repair Service System.
- Deployment of modern and state of art CDR (Call Detail Record) based Billing and Customer care system.
- Establishment of Customer Service Centres at all important locations in the country with “single window concept” to facilitate friendly interactions with the customers.
- Replacement of weak batteries and power plants to improve network uptime
- Regular Radio Frequency (RF) optimization tests.

Fast track courts

2629. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) set up in year 2000, State-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that at the behest of Supreme Court FTCs were extended up to 2011;

- (c) if so, whether FTCs have become defunct now, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether 1800 FTCs are proposed to be set up for five years, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) the jurisdiction of the proposed FTCs?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) to (c) A Statement indicating the number of Fast Track Courts earmarked by Eleventh Finance Commission in the year 2000, functioning as on 31.03.2005, 31.03.2011 and as per the latest available reports is given in Statement (*See below*).

The 11th Finance Commission had recommended a scheme for creation of 1734 FTCs in the country for disposal of long pending cases. The scheme was for a period of five years upto 2004-05. The Supreme Court of India, in the order dated 31.03.2005 in the case of *Brij Mohan Lal Vs UOI and Ors inter alia* observed that “maintenance of Fast Track Courts has to be looked after by the States”, and that “if financial resources are provided to continue these FTCs for a few years more, it will go a long way in clearing the arrears of pending cases”. The Hon’ble Court further observed that “We cannot allow the Scheme to be disbanded suddenly. We, therefore, direct Union of India to continue the said Scheme for a period of one month pending disposal of Writ Petition (C) No. 140 of 2005 & other cases.”

The Government accorded its approval for the continuation of Central funding of 1562 Fast Track Courts that were operational as on 31.3.2005 for a further period of 5 years *i.e.* up to 31st March, 2010. The scheme was continued for another one year upto 31st March, 2011, and central funding for these FTCs has been discontinued with effect from 1st April, 2011.

In its judgment in *Brij Mohan Lal & Others vs Union of India and Others* on 19.04.2012, Supreme Court has endorsed the position of Government of India that continuation of FTCs is within the domain of the States and has directed the States that they need to decide either to bring the Fast Track Courts scheme to an end or to continue the same as a permanent feature in the State. A number of States have continued FTCs beyond 31.03.2011 with their own resources.

(d) Government had requested the Chief Justices of all the High Courts to constitute FTCs for speedy trial of the pending rape cases in district/subordinate courts having a high pendency and to speed up the disposal of cases pending in appeal in the High Courts. Government had also requested the Chief Ministers to provide the requisite financial support to the High Courts for setting up of FTCs. They have been further requested to make use of the 10% additional positions of

Judges (about 1800) being created at the district/subordinate level in pursuance of the directions of the Supreme Court in Brij Mohan Lal case.

The 14th Finance Commission has endorsed the proposal to strengthen the judicial system in States which includes, *inter-alia*, establishing 1800 FTCs for a period of five years for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children, disabled and litigants affected with HIV AIDS and other terminal ailments; and civil disputes involving land acquisition and property/rent disputes pending for more than five years at a cost of ₹ 4144 crore. The 14th Finance Commission has urged State Governments to use additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the tax devolution to meet such requirements.

(e) Jurisdiction of FTCs is decided by the respective High Court.

Statement

Details of number of fast track courts approved for 11th Finance Commission funding in 2000 and functional as on 31.3.2005, 31.3.2011 and on the date mentioned

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Approved No. of FTCs as in 2000	No. of FTCs functional as on 31.3.2005	No. of FTCs functional as on 31.3.2011	No. of FTCs functioning	As on
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	86	86	108	72	April, 14
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	3	3	0	March, 14
3.	Assam	20	20	20	20	Oct., 12
4.	Bihar	183	150	179	179	March, 11
5.	Chhattisgarh	31	31	25	21	April, 14
6.	Goa	5	5	5	5	July, 14
7.	Gujarat	166	166	61	61	Feb., 11
8.	Haryana	36	16	6	6	Dec., 10
9.	Himachal Pradesh	9	9	9	0	June, 14
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	12	-	-	5	June, 14

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Jharkhand	89	89	39	11	March, 14
12.	Karnataka	93	93	87	39	March, 14
13.	Kerala	37	31	38	38	Aug., 13
14.	Madhya Pradesh	85	66	84	84	Dec., 10
15.	Maharashtra	187	187	51	92	June, 14
16.	Manipur	3	2	2	2	Oct., 12
17.	Meghalaya	3	3	3	3	June, 14
18.	Mizoram	3	3	3	3	March, 11
19.	Nagaland	3	2	2	2	Oct., 12
20.	Odisha	72	41	35	30	June, 14
21.	Punjab	29	18	15	20	March, 14
22.	Rajasthan	83	83	83	0	March, 14
23.	Sikkim	3		-	1	March, 14
24.	Tamil Nadu	49	49	49	32	June, 14
25.	Tripura	3	3	3	2	June, 14
26.	Uttar Pradesh	242	242	153	80	Feb., 15
27.	Uttarakhand	45	45	20	0	July, 14
28.	West Bengal	152	119	109	77	Aug., 14
29.	Delhi	-	-	-	10	March, 14
TOTAL		1734	1562	1192	895	

Self reliance in production of foodgrains

†2630. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the existing system of procurement, marketing, storage, preservation and distribution of agri-products and foodgrains;

(b) the status of self reliance in foodgrains production with reference to its quantity and fixation of market price in each of the last three years; and

(c) the manner in which the foodgrains supply for each person has been ensured?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.