

Sl. No.	Service Provider	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
4.	KEC International Ltd. (KEC)	5.24	1.53	0.00
5.	QUIPPO Telecom Infrastructure Ltd. (QTIL)	0.33	0.00	0.00
6.	Reliance Communications Infrastructure Ltd. (RCIL)	2.55	0.21	0.05
7.	Reliance Communications Ltd. (RCL)	0.01	0.00	0.01
8.	Vadofone Essar Cellular Ltd. (VECL)	3.62	0.90	0.00
9.	Vadofone Essar South Ltd. (VESL)	1.28	0.00	0.00
TOTAL		87.63	612.83	623.05

(c) The number of villages provided with phone facility (from Universal Service Obligation Fund) State-wise is as below:

Sl. No.	State	No of uncovered villages covered with mobile services under LTE Project
1.	Andhra Pradesh	81
2.	Bihar	276
3.	Chhattisgarh	735
4.	Jharkhand	1173
5.	Maharashtra	90
6.	Madhya Pradesh	33
7.	Odisha	372
8.	Telangana	258
9.	Uttar Pradesh	117
10.	West Bengal	144
TOTAL		3279

Re-tendering the technology contract of department of posts

2610. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Department of Posts had to re-tender its technology contract after it failed to get bids from any of the major Indian technology firms;

(b) whether it is also a fact that top information technology companies had stayed away from bidding for the project, terming the initial offer vague; and

(c) if so, whether Department of Posts did consult any information technology companies to prepare the bid documents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Department of Posts had floated tender for selection of System Integrator for setting up of India Post Payments Bank on 08.08.2016. As only one bid was received on e-procurement portal, the tender process was cancelled on 22.09.2016. Afterwards, a modified tender was issued on 17.10.2016. In response to the second tender, two bids have been received and are under evaluation.

(c) M/s Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India Limited Liability Partnership, Mumbai is providing consultancy to the Department and is involved in preparing the bid documents (Request for Proposal).

Another auction of spectrum

2611. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some telecom operators have enough quantity of spectrum and do not want another auction of spectrum this year while some others want to get more spectrum;

(b) whether many players in the field are in deep debt amounting to 4-5 trillion rupees;

(c) whether this is a consequent result of continuous reduction of BSNL's reach in the market during the last decade; and

(d) in what way Government intends to overcome this contradiction and make IT an effective tool in the hands of people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The Government has not yet decided to conduct another spectrum auction immediately. No request from telecom operators has so far been received in this regard.

(b) As per available information from industry, the debt is of the order of ₹ 460 thousands crores.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.