GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.363 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST MARCH, 2018

MOBILE TOWERS IN NAXAL AFFECTED AREAS

*363. SHRI ABHISHEK SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of places identified by the Government for installation of mobile towers in naxal affected areas of Chhattisgarh;
- (b) the number of places where such mobile towers have already been installed so far;
- (c) the number of identified places where such towers have not been installed along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS & MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PART (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *363 FOR 21ST MARCH, 2018 ON "MOBILE TOWERS IN NAXAL AFFECTED AREAS".

(a) A total of 532 places were identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Government of India for installation of mobile towers in Naxal affected areas of Chhattisgarh under the scheme to provide mobile connectivity in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas (LWE, Phase-I).

For LWE Phase-II, further 1028 places have been identified by MHA for installation of mobile towers in Chhattisgarh. Accordingly, the LWE Phase II project to set up 4072 mobile towers in 10 LWE affected States has been prepared and recommended by Telecom Commission (TC) for consideration of the Cabinet.

- (b) In Chhattisgarh, mobile towers at 521 places have been installed.
- (c) & (d) Mobile towers at 11 places have not been installed. The details are as follows:
 - (i) Seven towers could not be installed due to extreme Naxal activities
 - (ii) Three towers are under installation
 - (iii) One tower site not finalized by the State Government

The Department is constantly monitoring and pursuing with the Implementing Agency to complete the work. Licensed Service Area (LSA) of the Concerned State has been assigned the task of monitoring the Project.
