

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5322
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28th MARCH, 2018**

PENDING APPLICATIONS FOR BSNL LANDLINES

5322. SHRI B.V. NAIK:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether over 12,000 applications for landline connections are pending with the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether many areas are technically non-feasible and due to unavailability of underground cable, it is not possible to provide landline connections and if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether eighty four per cent of the said waitlisted applications are from urban areas and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the BSNL has stated that laying of underground cables is not economically viable in view of local bodies imposing right of way charges and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to reduce the aforementioned pendency of applications for landline connections?

ANSWER

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

- (a) At present, 1708 applications are pending with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for landline connections. State/Circle-wise detail is at **Annexure**.
- (b) Many new developing areas are presently Technically Non-Feasible(TNF) as underground cable has not been laid in these areas. These areas are being made feasible in a phased manner, based on techno commercial viability.
- (c) As on 31st January 2018, out of 1708 pending applications, 1391(81%) applications are pending from urban areas. State/Circle-wise details are at **Annexure**.
- (d) & (e) For laying cables, local bodies charges for Right of Way(RoW) are often quite high, due to which in certain cases the viability for providing connections becomes non-economical. Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has notified Indian Telegraph RoW Rules on 15th November, 2016. These rules specify only administrative charges of Rs.1,000/- per KM to be charged by the authorities for RoW permissions. The State Governments, Central Government and their agencies have been asked to align their policies with the Government of India RoW Rules, 2016. This matter is being pursued by DoT.

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Annexure**State/Circle-wise waiting list of BSNL landline as on 31.01.2018**

SI No	STATE/CIRCLE NAME	Waiting List		
		Urban	Rural	Total
1	Andaman Nicobar	0	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0
3	Assam	0	0	0
4	Bihar	0	0	0
5	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0
6	Gujarat	437	49	486
7	Haryana	0	0	0
8	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0
9	Jammu Kashmir	0	0	0
10	Jharkhand	0	0	0
11	Karnataka	0	0	0
12	Kerala	14	106	120
13	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0
14	Maharastra	940	162	1102
15	North East-I	0	0	0
16	North East-II	0	0	0
17	Odisha	0	0	0
18	Punjab	0	0	0
19	Rajasthan	0	0	0
20	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0
21	Uttar Pradesh(East)	0	0	0
22	Uttar Pradesh(West)	0	0	0
23	Uttarakhand	0	0	0
24	West Bengal	0	0	0
25	Kolkata	0	0	0
26	Chennai	0	0	0
	Total	1391	317	1708
