

PRESS NOTE

**CEO DISCUSSES INVENTORY OF COMMUNICAITON NETWORK IN
GOA**

Panaji, February 28, 2009

The Chief Electoral Officer and Secretary (Elections), Shri Ajit Srivastava held a meeting on the advise of the Election Commission of India regarding inventory of Communication Networks and identification of Communication Shadow areas in his Chamber at Secretariat Porvorim yesterday .

The election commission attaches greater importance to the communication and implementation of communicant plan for the smooth conduct of elections.

The Meeting was held with Shri E. D. Gaude, deputy Superintendent of Police (Wireless) of Goa Police, Shri Subhas G. Kambli, deputy General Manager BSNL and others.

Shri Gaude stated that the Goa Police network covers entire state and during elections Wireless sets are placed at 37 places to cover the communication shadow areas. He said the details could be collected by the cellular service Providers from his office and thereafter the requirements for covering the shadow areas can be given to the police wireless establishment by March 2, 2009.

It was also decided to arrange a field inspection on February 28, 2009 at Sanguem for assessing coverage of Sahini Polling Station falling in communication shadow and deciding remedial measure. The meeting point will be Polling Station Sanguem.

Shri Kamble of BSNL provided a list of 142 locations where booster towers hve been installed. He explained that there were some problems regarding sites having NOC for installations of towers but not being handed over by the Panchayats. At some places the work commenced could not progress due to interference by vested interests.

Other service providers also expressed similar difficulties.

It was decided that the details of such cases be handed over to Shri Arvind Bugde, Assistant Chief Electoral Officer at Altinho, Office following which

a consolidated proposal could be sent to the Panchayat Departments for getting the pending projects expedited.

The service providers were asked to locate the respective Polling stations and also advised to visit the Election website for information. The service providers were also instructed to ensure that services against toll free numbers are invariably provided without any interruption.