

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:420
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2000
TELEPHONE FACILITY IN GRAM PANCHAYATS
MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARY;RAMCHANDRA BAINDA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any scheme has been formulated by the Government to provide one telephone connection in every Gram Panchayat of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of Gram Panchayats having telephone facility in the country particularly in Bihar at present, State-wise;
- (d) the number of Gram Panchayats proposed to be provided with such facility during 2000-2001, State-wise;
- (e) the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided in the remaining Gram Panchayats; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to provide better telephone facility to the Gram Panchayats of the country?

Answer

Minister for Communications

(Shri Ram Vilas Paswan)

(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in respect of Parts (a) to (f) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.420 for 24th April 2000 regarding Telephone Facility in Gram Panchayats

Scheme has been formulated to provide public telephone facility in each village including Gram Panchayat village in the country. By 31.3.2000 1,96,162 Gram Panchayats villages have been provided with telecom facility including 6497 Gram Panchayat villages in Bihar . During 2000-01 14,427 Gram Panchayat villages are likely to be provided with telecom facility. Telephone facility in remaining Gram Panchayat villages is expected to be provided by March 2002. The state-wise information is given below.

State Total no.of Gram Panchayats Gram Panchayats to be
Gram Panchayats with Telephone facility provided telephone
facility during 2000-2001

A & Nicobar	67	67	0
Andhra Pradesh	19533	18256	0
Assam	2486	2094	200
Bihar	11792	6497	2000
Gujarat	13488	12396	0
Haryana	5946	5946	0
Himachal Pr.	2922	2584	150
Jammu & Kashmir	1461	874	102
Karnataka	5692	5419	273
Kerala	982	982	0
Madhya Pradesh	31158	24089	1200
Maharashtra	24752	22732	0
Goa	185	185	0
Arunachal Pr.	944	386	139
Manipur	429	359	17
Meghalaya	450	405	45
Mizoram	613	429	46
Nagaland	1001	406	148
Tripura	910	547	91
Orissa	5261	5010	100
Punjab	12477	11975	0
Rajasthan	9181	8619	0
Tamil Nadu	13115	13099	16
Uttar Pr. (East)	51262	34194	9000
Uttar Pr. (West)	19674	14610	770
West Bengal	3793	3699	94
Sikkim	148	112	36

Delhi 191 191 0

Total 239913 196162 14427

VPTs in remaining Gram Panchayats of Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra Rajasthan and some parts of Madhya Pradesh will be provided by Fixed Service Provider. Telephone facility in Gram Panchayat villages has been extended from modern electronic exchanges. Most of these exchanges have STD facility. Reliable transmission media on Optical Fibre, Microwave, Satellite or Under Ground cable has also been provided in large number of rural exchanges. Remaining exchanges are also being connected by reliable transmission media progressively. New technologies i.e. WLL, Satellite and C-DoT/PMP are being introduced in the local network to further improve operational performance.