

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1434  
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2003  
TELEPHONE EXCHANGE IN BIHAR  
RAJO SINGH

**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of Telephone Exchanges set up in rural areas of all the districts of Bihar during the Ninth Five Year Plan;
- (b) whether a large number of telephones under these exchanges are not functioning properly;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure proper functioning of these telephones; and
- (e) the steps being taken to provide telephone facilities in rural areas of Bihar where the same has not been provided so far?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SHRI . PRADHAN)

(a) 531 telephone exchanges were set up in rural areas of all districts of Bihar during the 9th five year plan as detailed below:

1997-98	28#
1998-99	43#
1999-2000	100#
2000-01	251#
2001-02	109

#includes districts of Jharkahand Telecom Circle.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) The following steps are taken to ensure proper functioning of telephones:

(i) Telephone connections are being provided on drop wire.

(ii) 5 pair cable is being laid to minimise faults rate.

(iii) Effective monitoring of faults at all levels.

(e) The following steps are taken to provide telephone facilities in rural areas of Bihar where the same not been provided so far:

(i) All the revenue villages of Bihar have been covered with telephone facilities through Village Public Telephones (VPTs).

(ii) 183 Rural Wireless in Local Loop (WLL), Base Trans/receive Stations (BTSs) with a total capacity of 91500 lines have beer commissioned.

(iii) The capacities of rural Base Station Controllers (BSCs) and Base Trans/receive Station (BTSs) are being expanded from 500 tc 1000 lines, totalling to 40500 lines to meet the existing demand.