

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2205
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2000
PUNALUR TELEPHONE EXCHANGE
SURESH KODIKUNNIL

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to expand the Punalur telephone exchange in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; alongwith the expanded capacity of the exchange;
- (c) the time by which the work is likely to be started;
- (d) the funds allocated for the purpose;
- (e) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in the said exchange; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to clear the waiting list?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS(SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) Capacity of Punalur exchange is proposed to be expanded by 3000 lines during the current financial year 2000-2001. After this expansion the capacity will become 10000 lines.
- (c) Purchase order for the proposed expansion for Punalur has been place, Installation work will start on receipt of equipment.
- (d) The total estimated cost of the project is Rs. 12,72,69,000/-. The funds allotted under Budget estimate 2000-2001 is Rs. 1,27,27,000/-. Request for additional funds will be made in the Revised Estimate 2000-2001 for this Project.
- (e) There is 1678 applicants on the waiting list for telephone connections at Punalur.
- (f) The entire waiting list will be wiped out progressively after commissioning of proposed expansion of 3000 lines.