

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4973
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2005
TELEPHONE FACILITY TO VILLAGE PANCHAYATS
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) whether the Government has provided telephone facility to all village panchayats of the country;
- (b) if so, the number of village panchayats where telephone facility has not been provided so far, particularly in Maharashtra, Uttaranchal, Gujarat and Orissa, District-wise;
- (c) the time by which the telephone facility is likely to be provided to all the village panchayats of these States; and
- (d) the funds allocated in the current budget in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b) No, Sir, 11,277 Gram Panchayats in the country have not been provided with Village Public Telephone (VPT) facility so far. This includes 2,020 Gram Panchayats of Maharashtra, 910 of Uttaranchal, 790 of Gujarat and 133 of Orissa. The District-wise details in respect of these States is given in the Annexure.

(c) It has been planned to provide telephone facility to all the Gram Panchayats in the country through provision of VPTs in a phased manner by November, 2007.

(d) For provision of VPTs in the uncovered villages, a provision of approximately Rs.180 crore has been made by the office of Administrator Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund in the year 2005-06

ANNEXURE

DISTRICT-WISE DETAILS OF GRAM PANCHAYAT VILLAGES YET TO BE PROVIDED WITH TELEPHONE FACILITY

S. N.	Name of the District	Total Number of Gram Panchayat yet to be provided with telecom facility	S. N.	Name of the District	Total Number of Gram Panchayat yet to be provided with telecom facility
MAHARASHTRA			GUJARAT		
1	Ahmednagar	19	1	Ahmedabad	49
2	Akola	16	2	Amreli	47
3	Amaravati	73	3	Bhavnagar	78
4	Beed	31	4	Bharuch	25
5	Bhandara	4	5	Bhuj	40
6	Buldhana	45	6	Godhra	205
7	Chandrapur	48	7	Jamnagar	32
8	Dhule	33	8	Junagarh	22
9	Gadchiroli	95	9	Kheda	2
10	Gondia	50	10	Mehsana	6
11	Hingoli	10	11	Palanpur	7
12	Kalyan	95	12	Rajkot	7
13	Latur	75	13	Surat	84
14	Nagpur	23	14	UT	1
15	Nanded	63	15	Vadodara	102
16	Nandurbar	34	16	Valsad	83
17	Osmanabad	76		Total	790
18	Parbhani	81			
19	Pune	145			
				ORISSA	
			1	Angul	4

20	Raigad	75	2	Bolangir	2
21	Ratnagiri	315	3	Boudh	1
22	Sangli	21	4	Cuttack	3
23	Satara	319	5	Dhankanal	1
24	Sindhudurg	168	6	Deogarh	2
25	Wardha	25	7	Gajapati	5
26	Yeotmal	81	8	Ganjam	1
	Total	2,020	9	Jajpur	2
	UTTARANCHAL		10	Jharsuguda	2
1	Almora	7	11	Kalahandi	14
2	Bageshwar	3	12	Koraput	21
3	Champawat	5	13	Malkangiri	12
4	Pithorgarh	11	14	Mayurbhanj	5
5	Dehradun	28	15	Nayagarh	3
6	Nainital	36	16	Nuapara	8
7	U.S. Nagar	2	17	Nowrangpur	1
8	New Tehri	174	18	Phulbani	22
9	Uttar Kashi	58	19	Rayagada	19
10	Pauri	265	20	Sambalpur	2
11	Chamoli	150	21	Sundargarh	3
12	Rudraprayag	171		Total	133
	Total	910			
