

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2022
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004
TELEGRAPH OFFICE
Jagannath Dr. M.

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

- (a) whether only one-third of the villages in the country have access to a telegraph office or PCO within 2 Kms; and
- (b) if so, the reasons thereof and the action proposed to be taken to improve the situation?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) There are no telegraph offices in the villages except combined offices which are normally a branch post office where facility for booking a telegram is available. Over and above, out of 6.07 Lakh villages in the country, there are 5.1 lakh Village Public Telephones of BSNL which are nothing but a PCO. Action is being taken to provide a VPT (PCO) in all the remaining villages of the country progressively.