

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:198  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2005  
WAITING LIST FOR TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS  
Karunakaran Shri P.

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

- (a) the number of applicants in the waiting list for telephone connections at the All India level as on till date;
- (b) the details of such applications in rural and urban areas, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has any special programme to clear the pending applications; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) As on 30.9.2005 (latest available) the waiting list for telephone connections at the All India level was 1681478. The details of the waiting list for telephone connections in rural and urban areas circle-wise is given in the Annexure.

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. The steps taken by the Government to clear the pending applications include the following:

- (i) Large scale deployment of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) network in rural areas has been planned.
- (ii) Relaxation of the outdoor cable from 2.5 kms to 5.0 kms for Landline Exchanges has been given.
- (iii) Mobile network are deployed in all the highways, important towns, pilgrim centers and state Highways to give coverage to more areas.
- (iv) Further, financial support is being provided to the telecom operators through the mechanism of Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) to encourage them, inter- alia, to provide phones in rural areas.

**ANNEXURE**

**STATEWISE/CIRCLE-WISE WAITING LIST OF TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS AS ON 30.09.2005**

S.No.	Name of State/Circle	URBAN	RURAL	STATUS
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	34	297	331
2.	Andhra Pradesh	11946	23450	35396
3.	Assam		8310	15829 24139
4.	Bihar		23070	86938 110008
5.	Chhattisgarh		1622	2361 3983
6.	Gujarat		10383	49521 59904
7.	Haryana		13983	60190 74173
8.	Himachal Pradesh		4925	39707 44632
9.	Jammu & Kashmir		45212	26277 71489
10.	Jharkhand		8860	8717 17577
11.	Karnataka		10488	75801 86289
12.	Kerala		28577	300923 329500
13.	Madhya Pradesh		3969	5207 9176
14.	Maharashtra (-) Mumbai		43513	119391 162904
15.	Orissa	6030	23571	29601
16.	Punjab		4420	36091 40511
17.	Rajasthan		20530	121097 141627
18.	North East		3397	3808 7205
19.	Tamil Nadu (-) Chennai		46229	79875 126104

20.	Uttaranchal	2778	1524	4302	
21.	Uttar Pradesh		54583	96770	151353
22.	West Bengal (-)		32641	112305	144946
Kolkata					
23.	Kolkata	2190	0	2190	
24.	Chennai		1261	0	1261
25.	Delhi		1353	0	1353
26.	Mumbai		1524	0	1524
TOTAL	391828	1289650		1681478	