

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:44
ANSWERED ON:17.02.2006
CLOSURE OF PCOs
Yadav Shri Mitrasen

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

- (a) whether two lakh sixty nine thousand PCO(Public Call Office) of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. have been closed during the last two years in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it has caused losses to both the PSUs;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of closed PCOs, State-wise?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) Sir, a total number of 2,31,584 Public Call Offices (PCOs) of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) have been closed during the last two years i.e. 2003-04 and 2004-05.
- (c) There is no quantifiable net loss of revenue which can be solely attributed to the closure of PCOs, as the loss of revenue gets compensated due to opening of new PCOs. Also the traffic gets diverted to other PCOs in the vicinity as well as to the new PCOs.
- (d) Does not arise in view of (c) above,
- (e) Details of PCOs closed during the last two years State wise is given in the Annexure.

Annexure

Number of PCOs closed during 2003-04 and 2004-05

(A) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.

Sl.N Name of State/Union Territory Total Nos. of PCOs
o. closed

1.	Andaman & Nicobar	9
2.	Andhra Pradesh	27230
3.	Assam	1364
4.	Bihar	3534
5.	Chhatisgarh	1688
6.	Gujarat	14870
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	122
8.	Daman & Diu	114
9.	Haryana	5996
10.	Himachal Pradesh	478
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	663
12.	Jharkhand	574
13.	Karnataka	18558
14.	Kerala	5077
15.	Lakshadweep	0
16.	Madhya Pradesh	7421
17.	Mharashtra	23752
18.	Goa	1069
19.	Meghalaya	116
20.	Mizoram	85
21.	Tripura	110
22.	Nagaland	423

23.	Manipur	187
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	71
25.	Orissa	2119
26.	Punjab including Chandigarh	9977
27.	Rajasthan	7279
28.	Tamilnadu	30174
29.	Pondichery	304
30.	Uttar Pradesh	12608
31.	Uttaranchal	682
32.	West Bengal	16696
33.	Sikkim	22
	Total	193372

(B) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (MTNL)

34.	MTNL Delhi	28848
35.	MTNL Mumbai	9364
	Total	38212

GRAND TOTAL (A +B) 231584