

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4277  
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2005  
TELEPHONE FACILITIES WITH STD ISD FAX  
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**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether all the tribal and backward villages of Gujarat, Karnataka and other Western States have been provided with telephone facilities including STD/ISD/FAX etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) The details of telephone facilities provided in tribal villages of Gujarat, Karnataka and Maharashtra telecom circles are as under:-

(i) Gujarat Telecom Circle: Out of total number of 5,496 tribal villages, 3,973 villages have been provided with telecom facilities. District-wise details are given in Annexure-I.

(ii) Karnataka Telecom Circle: All the 1,906 tribal villages have been covered with telecom facilities.

(iii) Maharashtra Telecom Circle: Out of 7,284 tribal villages, 4,000 villages have been provided with telecom facilities. District-wise details are given in Annexure-II.

STD/ISD facilities are provided on request from custodians of Village Public Telephones (VPTs). For Fax, a custodian has to provide his own personal computer/Fax equipment as the case may be.

(c) & (d) The steps being taken for provision of new services in rural areas are as follows:-

(i) Provision of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) in a time bound manner in all the remaining 66,822 unconnected villages. This excludes villages having population less than 100 and lying in thick forests/naxalite infested areas etc. These VPTs shall be provided progressively by November 2007.

(ii) Replacement of MARR VPTs with the technologies enabling the provision of STD/ISD/FAX facility by June 2006.

(iii) Conversion of all small and medium exchanges in to Remote Switching Units (RSUs)/Access Network Rural Automatic Exchanges (AN RAXs) to enable provisioning of modern urban facilities in rural areas.

(iv) Large-scale deployment of state of the art wireless technologies for rural areas.

**ANNEXURE-I**

**DISTRICT-WISE DETAILS OF TELECOM FACILITY OF TRIBAL VILLAGES IN GUJARAT TELECOM CIRCLE**

Sl.N o.	Name of District	Total Nos. of Tribal Villages##	Nos. of Tribal villages with telecom facility	Nos. of Tribal villages yet to be provided with Telecom facility
1	Bharuch	97	78	19
2	Narmada	516	355	161
3	Dahod	1,097	581	516
4	Sabarkantha	616	485	131
5	Banaskantha	193	149	44

6	Surat	1,103	926	177
7	Vodadra	804	474	330
8	Valsad	425	399	26
9	Navsari	286	276	10
10	Dang	290	191	99
11	Dadra & Nagar Haveli (UT)	69	59	10
TOTAL		5,496	3,973	1,523

##This excludes villages having population less than 100 and lying in thick forest/naxalite infested areas etc.

**ANNEXURE-II**

**DISTRICT-WISE DETAILS OF TELECOM FACILITY OF TRIBAL VILLAGES IN MAHARASHTRA TELECOM CIRCLE**

Sl.N o.	Name of District	Total Nos. of Tribal Villages##	Nos. of Tribal villages with telecom facility	Nos. of Tribal villages yet to be provided with Telecom facility
1	Ahmednagar	118	83	35
2	Amravati	344	103	241
3	Bhandara	284	156	128
4	Chandrapur	742	337	405
5	Dhule	997	643	354
6	Gadchiroli	1,450	485	965
7	Jalgaon	63	28	35
8	Kalyan	1,135	592	543
9	Nagpur	97	60	37
10	Nanded	185	84	101
11	Nasik	828	545	283
12	Pune	144	27	117
13	Raigadh	47	41	6
14	Yavatmal	528	208	320
TOTAL		6,962	3,392	3,570

##This excludes villages having population less than 100 and lying in thick forest/naxalite infested areas etc.