

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2270  
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005  
STD / ISD / INTERNET FACILITIES TO VILLAGE PANCHAYATS  
Dhanaraju Dr. K.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide more telecom facilities to Panchayats in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of gram Panchayats in Tamil Nadu, location-wise, where STD/ISD/Internet and Fax facilities have been provided during the year 2004-05 and likely to be provided during 2005-06; and
- (c) the steps being taken or likely to be taken in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) Yes, Sir. STD/ISD facilities are provided on request from custodians of Village Public Telephones (VPTs). For Internet, the custodian has to put his own equipment and can obtain Internet connection from Internet Service Provider. Similarly for FAX also, the custodian has to provide his own personal computer/Fax equipment as the case may be.

(b) & (c) District wise details of STD facilities on VPTs for the year 2004-05 and 2005-06 are given in the Annexure. The steps being taken for provision of new services in rural areas are as follows:

- (i) Replacement of MARR VPTs with the technologies enabling the provision of STD/ISD/Internet facility.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) Large-scale deployment of state of the art wireless technologies for rural areas.

**ANNEXURE**

District-wise details of on VPTs availing STD facilities during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06

Sl. No.	District	SSA during 2004-05	STD during 2004-06	VPTs during 2005-	STD during 2005-	VPTs
1.	Ariyalur	Trichy	0		0	
2.	Coimbatore	Coimbatore	0			0
3.	Cuddalore	Cuddalore	0		281	
4.	Dharmapuri	Dharmapuri	5			6
5.	Dindigul	Masdurai	7		3	
6.	Erode	Erode	4		0	
7.	Kancheepuram	Chengelpattu	0			0
8.	Kanyakumari	Nagarcoil	0			0
9.	Karur	Trichy	0		0	
10.	Madurai	Madurai		37		24
11.	Nagapattinam	Kumbakonam	2			0
12.	Namakkal	Salem	0		0	
13.	Perambalur	Trichy	0		0	
14.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry	0			0
15.	Pudukottai	Trichy	0		0	
16.	Ramanathapuram	Karaikudi	0			101
17.	Salem	Salem	0		0	
18.	Sivaganga	Karaikudi	1		65	
19.	Thanjavur	Thanjavur	8		0	
20.	The Nilgiris	Coonoor	1			0
21.	Theni	Madurai	5		19	
22.	Tirunelveli	Tirunelveli	4			0
23.	Tiruvannamalai	Vellore	28	0		
24.	Tiruvarur	Thanjavur	1			0

25.	Tiruvellore	Chengelpattu	0		0
26.	Trichy	Trichy	2	0	
27.	Tuticorin	Tuticorin	0		0
28.	Vellore	Vellore	10	0	
29.	Villupuram	Cuddalore	0	272	
30	Virudhunagar	Virudhunagar	11		0
TOTAL:					
			126		771