

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1483

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RURAL TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

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

- (a) whether with a view to improve the rural telephone system the Government has decided to change the old telephone technology;
- (b) if so, the details of the schemes prepared by the Government to replace the rural telephone technology;
- (c) the number of such telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh and other States wherein the (C-DoT) technology will be made available; and
- (d) the number of exchanges wherein new technology has been installed by December, 2005?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Following steps are being taken to improve the rural telephone system:

(i) Replacement of Multi Access Radio Relay (MARR) technology based Village Public Telephones (VPTs) with both landline and Fixed Wireless Terminals (FWT).

(ii) Upgradation of C-DOT 256 exchanges to Access Node Rural Automatic Exchange (ANRAX) exchanges on C-DOT technology. This enables the exchanges to have access to facilities available in main exchanges.

(iii) Upgradation of Single Based Modules (SBMs) to Remote Switching Units (RSUs).

(c) 1,658 C-DOT Rural Automatic Exchanges (RAXs) have been upgraded as C-DOT AN RAX in U.P. and 19,674 have been upgraded as C-DOT AN RAXs in all other states. Balance 174 RAXs in U.P. and 4,540 in all other states will be converted to AN RAXs by March, 2006.

636 SBMs have been upgraded as RSUs in U.P. and 6,518 have been upgraded as RSUs in all other states. Balance 4 SBMs in U.P. and 257 SBMs in all other states will be converted to RSUs by March, 2006.

(d) The new technology has been provided in 28,486 exchanges till December, 2005.