

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2610  
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2006  
PCOS/ STD/ ISD  
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

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

- (a) the norms for allotment of PCO/STD/ISD booths in the country;
- (b) the number of mobile PCO/STD/ISD booths functioning in each State at present;
- (c) the number of applications pending for allotment of these booths, State-wise; and
- (d) the time by which such applications are likely to be cleared?

**Answer**

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

(a) Sir, Public Call Offices (PCOs) are allotted by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) to all the applicants who are of 18 years or above of age and the same are provided on first come first served basis subject to technical feasibility. However, where there is waiting list for PCOs, 50% of the PCOs are allotted to the reserved categories in the order given below:

- (i) Defence establishments and other para-military establishments (e.g. BSF, CRPF etc.).
- (ii) War-widows/dependants
- (iii) SC/ST
- (iv) Handicapped persons
- (v) Ex-servicemen.

(b) & (c) The number of PCOs of MTNL and BSNL functioning in each state and pending applications for allotment of PCOs are given in annexure.

(d) There is no waiting list for allotment of PCOs in MTNL Delhi and Mumbai. The pending applications in BSNL are likely to be cleared progressively by March 2007.

**ANNEXURE**

**NUMBER OF PCOs of BSNL & MTNL FUNCTIONING IN EACH STATE AND PENDING APPLICATIONS AS ON 31-1-2006.**

Sl. No. NAME OF STATE/ TELECOM CIRCLE Local STD/ PCOs of PCOs No. of PCOs No. of Total Mobile PCOs of Pending Applications

Sl. No.	NAME OF STATE/ TELECOM CIRCLE	No. of Local STD/ PCOs	No. of PCOs	No. of Total Mobile PCOs	No. of Pending Applications
1	Andaman & Nicobar	228	926	0	1154 16
2	Andhra Pradesh	173861	86521	0	260382 3778
3	Assam	291	23715	0	24006 207
4	Bihar	12761	47270	70	60101 2345
5	Chhatisgarh	5325	8260	0	13585 396
6	Gujarat	97619	52220	0	149839 332
7	Haryana	2467	32867	36	35370 0
8	Himachal Pradesh	548	10644	0	11192 138
9	Jammu & Kashmir	3054	13126	0	16180 3466
10	Jharkhand	6707	15981	0	22688 273
11	Karnataka	196763	57818	0	254581 4222

12	Kerala	57293	55251	15	112559	1136
13	Madhya Pradesh	23764	29888	9	53661	0
14	Maharashtra	207962	89662	185	297809	7390
15	North East-I	392	5445	0	5837	2784
16	North East-II	1823	4829	0	6652	11
17	Orissa	5807	24884	0	30691	282
18	Punjab	4761	37555	1	42317	0
19	Rajasthan	7864	60638	9	68511	1021
20	Tamil Nadu	137877	63103	8	200988	280
21	Uttar Pradesh - East	21166	80003	895	102064	1365
22	Uttar Pradesh - West	13172	44763	63	57998	256
23	Uttaranchal	499	13921	63	14483	195
24	West Bengal	9087	46595	0	55682	13715
25	Kolkata	35042	30343	0	65385	76
26	Chennai	66359	19768	0	86127	0
	TOTAL	1092492	955996	1354	2049842	43684
27	MTNL, DELHI	67244	30309	0	97553	0
28	MTNL, MUMBAI	150992	31276	0	182268	0
	GRAND TOTAL	1310728	1017581	1354	2329663	43684

**Note:-**

- 1 Gujarat Circle - Consists of state of Gujarat and U.T. of Dadara & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu.
- 2 Kerala Circle - Consists of state of Kerala, part of Pondicherry state and U.T. Lakshadweep.
- 3 Maharashtra Circle - Consists of states of Maharashtra and Goa excluding Mumbai.
- 4 North East-I Circle - Consists of states of Meghalya, Mizoram & Tripura.
- 5 North East-II Circle - Consists of states of Nagaland, Manipur & Arunachal Pradesh.
- 6 Punjab Circle - Consists of state of Punjab and U.T. of Chandigarh.
- 7 Tamil Nadu Circle - Consists of state of Tamil Nadu and part of Pondicherry state but excluding Chennai.
- 8 West Bengal Circle - Consists of states of West Bengal and Sikkim but excluding Kolkata.