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**Supply of Gas through pipeline in Maharashtra**

1158. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to supply the Natural Gas by pipeline throughout Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the time by which the plan is likely to be implemented and total investment involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Telephone facility to Panchayats**

1159. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in providing telephone connections in rural areas in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of Panchayats still to be covered by the said facility, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which all the Panchayats are likely to be provided with telephone facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) Upto 30.6.94, 1,44,849 public telephone connections have been provided to villages, State-wise details are given in the Annex.

(b) As on 30.6.94, 1,02,587 Panchayat Villages are still to be covered with telephone facility, State-wise details are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) In accordance with National telecom Policy, all the villages, including Panchayat villages are planned to be provided with telephone facility progressively by March 31, 1997 subject to availability of resources.

## STATEMENT

## VILLAGE PUBLIC TELEPHONES

Status as on June 30, 1994.

Sl. No.	Circle/State	Total No. of inhabited villages	No. of village with Telephone as on 30.6.1994	No. of Panchayat villages without Telephone on 30.6.94
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29341	19430	5828
2.	Assam	20459	4525	524
3.	Bihar	79208	8300	5160
4.	Gujarat including Dadra & Nagar, Daman & Diu	18735	9856	3713
5.	Haryana	7190	4939	853
6.	Himachal Pradesh	16997	2363	1280
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	6447	883	767

Sl. No.	Circle/State	Total No. of inhabited villages	No. of village with Telephone as on 30.6.1994	No. of Panchayat villages without Telephone on 30.6.94
8.	Karnataka	27024	5218	1127
9.	Kerala including Lakshadweep Island	1530	1512	Nil
10.	Madhya Pradesh	71386	18307	5016
11.	Maharashtra including Goa	36187	14588	10373
12.	North-East including Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura	15192	1574	2750
13.	Orissa	5105	5279	537
14.	Punjab	13252	7589	4154
15.	Rajasthan	37889	6223	1663
16.	Tamil Nadu including			

Sl. No.	Circle/State	Total No. of Inhabited villages	No. of village with Telephone as on 30.6.1994	No. of Panchayat villages without Telephone on 30.6.94
	Pondicherry	15826	11812	1477
17.	Utar Pradesh	112568	18865	56651
18.	West Bengal including Andaman, Nicobar & Sikkim	43306	3586	714
	Total	603594	1,44849	1,02,587