

[English]

**New Telecom Policy**

1033. SHRI HARIN PATHAK :  
SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided that there will be no change in its new Telecom Policy;

(b) if so, whether the new Policy will provide basic telephone and value added telecom services to the people at reasonable cost;

(c) the time by which the rural areas are likely to get benefit of telecom services under the said Policy;

(d) whether the Government propose to provide telephones immediately to every one who demands, without waiting for longer period in the urban areas, particularly in Ahmedabad and metropolitan cities;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the steps taken by the Government for its implementation; and

(g) the time by which the Policy is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No change in the National Telecom Policy is at present under consideration of the Government.

(b) As per the policy, basic telephone services as well as Value added services are to be provided at reasonable and affordable cost.

(c) The National Telecom Policy, 1994 envisages provision of public telephone to all the villages by the year 1997.

(d) and (e). The telecom network has been rapidly expanding and the waiting period has been steadily coming down. This year, it is targetted to provide 24.5 lakh direct exchange lines and it is expected that the waiting period will further come down.

(f) A number of important steps taken have been taken by the Government for implementation of the National Telecom Policy, 1994, including :

- (i) Government has permitted private companies to operate value added services in India. To supplement the efforts of DOT, Government has decided to franchise private operators to provide basic telephone services;
- (ii) Access to new technologies and services are being encouraged;
- (iii) C-DOT, an R and D institution with suitable funding exists so that Indian technology can meet national demand and also compete globally.

(g) Implementation of the National Telecom Policy, 1994 especially in the areas of technology is a continuous process.

**Capacity of TV Transmitter/AIR Station in Kerala**

1034. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the capacity of T.V. transmitters and AIR Stations in Kerala and the area covered by them.

(b) whether the Government have identified the place for installing new high power and low power TV transmitters in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(d) the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(e) the time by which these transmitters are likely to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C M IBRAHIM) : (a) As shown in Statement-I enclosed.

(b) and (c). As given in Statement II enclosed

(d) The expenditure incurred on Doordarshan projects upto March, 1996 is approximately Rs 248.17 lakhs.

(e) One LPT and one VLPT are technically ready and other projects are expected to be completed by the end of 1997-98 subject to availability of funds and infrastructure facilities

**STATEMENT-I**

Location	Transmitter Power	Expected Area coverage (sq kms approx)
1	2	3
<b>I. All India Radio</b>		
Thiruvananthapuram	50 KW SW	Entire State
	10 KW MW	1200
	1 KW MW	200
Alleppey	100 KW MW	17200
Calicut	100 KW MW	13100
	1 KW MW	200
Trichur	100 KW MW	13200
Cochin	6 KW FM	5600
	10 KW FM	7000
Cannanore	6 KW FM	6800
Iddukki (Devikakulam)	6 KW FM	11300