

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:91  
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2002  
TELEPHONE FACILITY TO VILLAGES  
ARUN KUMAR;VIRENDRA KUMAR

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

- (a) whether the Government are committed to achieve the target to provide telephone facility in all the villages in the country by year 2002;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken to achieve the target; and
- (c) the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PF MAHAJAN)

(a) Yes, Sir. The Government policy is to provide one Village Public Telephone in each village of the country by year 2002.

(b) & (c): The Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) which is a public sector unit under the Department of Telecommunications has formulated a comprehensive plan to induct new technologies for rural telephony. These are Wireless in Local Loop(WLL), Centre for Development of Telematics Point to Multi-Point system(C-DOT PMP) & satellite-based telephones for remote and inaccessible areas in the country over and above the conventional technology of under ground cables. These are being implemented in a phased manner. Private Basic Service Operators are also required to fulfil their commitment for providing Village Public Telephony.