

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:926  
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2002  
TELEPHONE FACILITY TO GRAM PANCHAYATS  
RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT

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

- (a) whether telephone facilities has been provided to all the Gram Panchayats in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of Gram Panchayats particularly in Maharashtra where this facility has not been provided so far, district-wise;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to provide better telephone facility to Gram Panchayats; and
- (d) the budget allocation made for this purpose during the year 2001-2002 and the target fixed in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SHRI TAPAN S

(a) & (b): There are 33951 Gram Panchayats in the country and 2020 in Maharashtra where this facility has not been provided so far (annex I). The district-wise information in this respect in case of Maharashtra is given in the annexure II.

(c) The steps include deployment of technologies such as Wireless in Local Loop, Point-to-Multipoint system developed by Centre for Development of Telematics(C-DoT) and satellite based telephones for remote and inaccessible areas in the country apart from conventional wireline facility and connecting all exchanges by reliable media by various operators.

(d) Rs. 2675 crores has been earmarked by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. as budgetary allocation for Village Public Telephones (VPTs) during the year 2001-2002 and target fixed in this regard for 2001-02 is provision of 144000 VPTs for the whole country. However BSNL has completed their portion of VPTs in Maharashtra Circle & remaining villages (including Gram Panchayats) are to be covered by Private Basic Service Operator by the end of 2002.

**ANNEXURE - I**

**Circle-Wise Status Of Panchayat Villages With VPTs As On 01.11.2001**

Sl. No.	Circle Villages	No. of Panchayat provided with VPTs	Panchayat Villages Remaining	Panchayat Villages
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1	Andaman & Nicobar	67	67	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	19533	18260	1273
3	Assam	2486	2094	392
4	Bihar	8489	5625	2864
5	Chhattisgarh	9139	5713	3426
6	Gujarat	13510	12542	968
7	Haryana	5946	5946	0
8	Himachal Pradesh	2922	2744	178
9	Jammu & Kashmir	1461	897	564
10	Jharkhand	3303	1965	1338
11	Karnataka	5692	5690	2
12	Kerala	1000	1000	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	22029	18594	3435
14	Maharashtra	24937	22917	2020
15	North East -I	1973	1391	582
16	North East - II	2374	1715	659
17	Orissa	5254	5010	244
18	Punjab	12477	12477	0
19	Rajasthan	9184	8641	543
20	Tamil Nadu	13126	13126	0
21	U.P (East)	51262	39522	11740
22	U.P. (West)	12831	11848	983
23	Uttanchal	6843	4150	2693
24	West Bengal	3473	3473	0

25 Calcutta 468 421 47  
 26 Delhi 191 191 0

TOTAL 239970 206019 33951

ANNEXURE - II

DISTRICT-WISE DETAILS OF VILLAGES WITH GRAM PANCHAYATS HAVING TELEPHONE FACILITIES IN MAHARASHTRA AND GOA

S1. No NAME OF SSA NAME OF DIST. TOTAL GP TOTAL GPs PROVIDED WITH BALANCE GPs  
 VILLAGES TELECOM FACILITY TO BE PROVIDED WITH TELECOM FACILITY

1	AHMEDNAGAR	AHMEDNAGAR	1160	1141	19
2	AKOLA	AKOLA	486	470	16
3	WASHIM	WASHIM	450	450	0
4	AMRAVATI	AMRAVATI	804	731	73
5	AURANGABAD	AURANGABAD	693	693	0
6	BEEED	BEEED	924	893	31
7	DHANDARA	BHANDARA	546	542	4
8	GONDIA	GONDIA	500	450	50
9	BULDHANA	BULDHANA	828	783	45
10	CHANDRAPUR	CHANDRAPUR	804	756	48
11	DHULE	DHULE	480	447	33
12	NANDURBAR	NANDURBAR	482	448	34
13	GADCHIROLI	GADCHIROLI	458	363	95
14	JALGAON	JALGAON	1062	1062	0
15	JALNA	JALNA	557	557	0
16	KALYAN	KALYAN (THANE)	882	787	95
17	KOLHAPUR	KOLHAPUR	913	913	0
18	LATUR	LATUR	637	562	75
19	NAGPUR	NAGPUR	710	687	23
20	NANDED	NANDED	1163	1100	63
21	NASIK	NASIK	1224	1224	0
22	OSMANABAD	OSMANABAD	544	468	76
23	PARBHANI	PARBHANI	573	492	81
24	HINGOLI	HINGOLI	500	490	10
25	PUNE	PUNE	1177	1032	145
26	RAIGARH	RAIGAD	660	585	75
27	RATNAGIRI	RATNAGIRI	768	453	315
28	SANGLI	SANGLI	631	610	21
29	SATARA	SATARA	1213	894	319
30	SINDHUDURG	SINDHUDURG	388	220	168
31	SOLAPUR	SOLAPUR	931	931	0
32	WARDHA	WARDHA	481	456	25
33	YEOTMAL	YEOTMAL	1123	1042	81
	TOTAL		24752	22732	2020
34	GOA	NORTH GOA	100	100	0
35	GOA	SOUTH GOA	85	85	0
	GRAND TOTAL		24937	22917	2020