

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2608  
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2002  
COMMUNICATION SERVICE  
JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI

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

- (a) the number of villages of Rajasthan where communication service has started and number of villages which are remaining;
- (b) whether any target was fixed to cover the villages by communication service in Rajasthan during 2001-2002;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the extent upto which it was achieved; and
- (d) the reasons for not achieving the target and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHEKHAR MATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

TELECOM

(a) So far Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has provided 23858 villages with telephone facility and M/s Shyam Telelink Ltd., the private basic operator in Rajasthan has provided VPT connections in 312 villages of Rajasthan. There are 15,313 villages yet to be operated with VPTs in Rajasthan.

POSTAL

The communication service of daily delivery and collection of mails and sale of postal stamps and stationary is available to all the villages in Rajasthan. However, post offices exist in 9645 villages and 204 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras exist in Gram Panchayats as on 31.3.2002. Post Offices/ Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras do not exist in remaining villages.

TELECOM

(b) to (d) The remaining villages are to be covered by M/s Shyam Telelink Limited in Rajasthan, which the company is supposed to cover by the end of December, 2002.

Government is insisting upon the company to complete its unfulfilled target by the end of Dec.2002 against submission of additional performance, bank guarantee and deed of gurarantee.

POSTAL

The target of opening of 20 new post offices and 70 new Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras was fixed to cover the villages by postal counter facility in Rajasthan during 2001-2002. 20 new post offices in villages and 80 new Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras in Gram Panchayats were opened during 2001-2002 in the villages of Rajasthan.