

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMUNICATIONS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:587  
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2000  
VILLAGE PUBLIC TELEPHONE FACILITY  
CHINMAYANAND;T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Department of Telecommunication propose to frame a time bound action plan to provide telephone facility in all the villages in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the targets set in this regard and the achievements made during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (d) the funds allocated for the purpose during 2000-2001 and for the entire Ninth Five Year Plan?

**Answer**

Minister for Communications

(Shri Ram Vilas Paswan)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in respect of Parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.587 for 8th May, 2000 regarding Village Public Telephone Facility

Government has planned time-bound action plan to provide telephone facility in all the villages of the country. Out of 607,491 villages in the country, 374,605 villages i.e. 61.7% have been provided with public telephone facilities till 31st March 2000. The remaining 232,886 villages are planned to be covered progressively by March 2002. Department of Telecom Services plans to cover 177,038 villages. 55,848 villages are to be covered by Private Fixed Service Providers. State-wise targets and achievements during the last three years and targets set in this regard for next two years are given in the enclosed Annexure.

Based on new Village Public Telephone (VPT) target, fund requirement estimated for the year 2000-2001 is Rs.450 crores. For the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002), funds proposed are Rs.3057 crores for providing VPT facility in the country.

**ANNEXURE**

**Statewise Target and Achievements for VPTS**

Year 1997-98 1998-99 1999-2000 2000-2001 2001-2002

Target Achie- Target Achie- Target Achie- Target Target  
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A & Nicobar	181	30	53	56	63	55	8	0
Andhra Pr.	3000	1566	400	526	0	15	0	0
Assam	4000	2484	2900	2907	3000	826	5000	3043
Bihar	12000	2615	6000	2137	8000	4602	24651	29634
Gujarat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Haryana	508	195	20	0	26	0	4	39
Himachal Pr.	2500	1504	1000	1208	2500	2577	4000	2633
Jammu & Kashmir	1200	437	1000	763	1500	448	2000	971
Karnataka	3000	3389	2500	2521	2000	2455	1265	0
Kerala	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	5500	3878	4000	3707	5000	3546	5860	0
Maharashtra	2940	2725	2670	2462	0	165	0	0
Goa	60	36	30	10	0	0	0	0
Arunachal Pr.	362	50	171	21	750	18	5110	5000
Manipur	232	115	232	48	300	44	-do-	-do-
Meghalaya	812	180	232	233	300	111	-do-	-do-

