

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2208  
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2003  
SETTING UP OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGES  
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI;YEMPARALA VENKATESWARA RAO

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal to set up new telephone exchanges in the rural, tribal and remote areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;
- (d) whether the Government propose to link all the telephone exchanges having 1000 lines with optical fibre cable or microwave system in the country; and
- (e) if so, by when all the exchanges are likely to be connected with OFC?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Sir. As per the present policy, planning for the rural areas is preferred using WLL (Wireless in Local Loop) systems. However, if WLL solution is not possible due to technical reason, new exchanges are planned with minimum registration of 75 with in the local area of the exchange. The details of the exchanges planned to be provided are given in the Annexure.
- (c) The likely expenditure is about Rs. 183 Crores for WLL during the current year.
- (d) Yes, Sir.
- (e) Government has a policy to provide reliable media (OFC, Microwave system etc.) to all exchanges by the year 2003.

**ANNEXURE**

**TARGETS FOR THE PROPOSED EXCHANGES IN RURAL / TRIBAL AREAS DURING 2002-03**

Sl. NO.	STATES	NEW EXCHANGES PROPOSED
1.	Andhra Pradesh	80
2.	Andaman & Nicobar	02
3.	Assam	40
4.	Bihar	25
5.	Jharkhand	10
6.	Gujarat	25
7.	Haryana	25
8.	Himachal Pradesh	20
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	10
10.	Karnataka	30

11.	Kerala	35
12.	Madhya Pradesh	25
13.	Chattisgarh	20
14.	Maharashtra	95
15.	N.E.-I#	14
16.	N.E.-II@	25
17.	Orissa	30
18.	Punjab	30
19.	Rajasthan	40
20.	Tamilnadu	55
21.	Uttar Pradesh	60
22.	Uttaranchal	14
23.	West Bengal	50

TOTAL

760

NE-1 # includes Meghalaya, Tripura & Mizoram States

NE-II @ includes Manipur, Nagaland & Arunachal Pradesh States