

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1711
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2000
PUBLIC TELEPHONES IN VILLAGES
MONI KUMAR SUBBA; RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many of the Gram Panchayats in Assam and other North-Eastern States and in Ahmedabad and Bhavnagar districts in Gujarat still remain without a telephone connections;
- (b) if so, the number and percentage of such unconnected villages and panchayats in the said States and districts;
- (c) the time by which this facility is likely to be provided in such States and districts; and
- (d) the targets fixed for each year of the Ninth-Five Year Plan for connecting villages with telephone connections in the country and the said States and districts and the advancements made in this regard so far, State-wise?

Answer

Minister Of State for Communications (Shri Tapan Sikdar)

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

Statement In Respect Of Parts (a) To (d) Of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.1711 for 6th March 2000 regarding Public Telephones in Villages

(a), (b), (c) & (d): Yes Sir. Some Gram Panchayats in Assam and other North-Eastern States and in Ahmedabad and Bhavnagar districts in Gujarat are still without telephone connections. Details are given in the Annex-I. All the villages in these States and districts are proposed to be covered by the end of 9th Plan subject to the availability of sufficient resources. The yearly targets / achievements in the country and the States of Assam, North-East and Districts of Ahmedabad and Bhavnagar are in Annex-II.

Annexure-I

Number and Percentage of Villages and Gram Panchayats without telephone connections

State/Distt	Total Vill.	%age of Vill. without VPTs	Total Gram Panchayats without VPTs	%age of Gram Panchayats without VPTs
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Assam	22,224	8,371 37.7	2,485	391 15.7
Arunachal Pr.	3,599	3,011 83.7	944	558 59.1
Manipur	2,394	1,710 71.4	429	70 16.3
Meghalaya	5,629	4,443 78.9	450	45 10.0
Mizoram	770	152 19.7	613	184 30.0
Nagaland	1,192	632 53.0	1,001	595 59.4
Tripura	862	232 26.9	910	363 39.9

Total for North-East 14,446 10,180 70.5 4,347 1,815 41.8

Ahmedabad (Guj.)	645	51 7.9	640	27 4.2
Bhavnagar (Guj.)	865	114 13.2	853	113 13.2

Annexure-II

Target and Achievements for VPTs

Year	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target
	(Till 1 Mar)				
A. & Nicobar	181	30	53	56	63
Andhra Pradesh	3000	1566	400	526	0
Assam	4000	2484	2900	2907	3000
Bihar	12000	2615	6000	2137	8000
Gujarat	0	0	0	0	0
Haryana	508	195	20	0	26
Himachal Pr.	2500	1504	1000	1208	2500
Jammu & Kashmir	1200	437	1000	763	1500
Karnataka	3000	3389	2500	2521	2000
Kerala	0	0	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	5500	3878	4000	3707	5000
Maharashtra	4940	2725	2670	2462	0
Goa	60	36	30	10	0
Maharashtra Circle	5000	2761	2700	2472	0
Arunachal Pradesh	362	50	171	21	750
Manipur	232	115	232	48	300
Meghalaya	812	180	232	233	300
Mizoram	122	15	52	30	79
Nagaland	214	44	232	21	307
Tripura	258	70	81	51	264
North-East Circle	2000	474	1000	404	2000
Orissa	8819	2402	2400	2242	3000
Punjab	1245	1327	345	173	0
Rajasthan	5000	3269	2540	2585	0
Tamil Nadu	1000	2530	142	196	0
UP(East)	14000	8618	7500	8219	7000
UP(West)	8000	2197	5500	2937	6000
West Bengal	7800	3153	4930	3955	4826
Sikkim	200	4	70	50	174
West Bengal Circle	8000	3157	5000	4005	5000
Calcutta Telecom	47	22	0	0	47
TOTAL	83000	42855	45000	37058	45136

Note: No targets have been fixed by Department of Telecom Services for Ahmedabad and Bhavnagar districts in Gujarat as in Gujarat, all the remaining villages is to be covered by Fixed Service Provider.