

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1751

ANSWERED ON:06.03.2000

TELECOM FACILITIES

ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL;SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the progress made both in rural and urban areas in Maharashtra in expending, upgrading and strengthening of the communication and postal network in terms of expanding the telephone lines capacity and providing new telephone connections;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years;

(c) the standard norms for granting new telephone connections and said connections proposed to be provided during the next five years in the State;

(d) the number of Public Telephone Booths added during each of the last three years and the number of such booths functioning at present in the State; and

(e) the details of action plan proposed for 2000-2001 and Ninth Five Year Plan period in terms of expansion, upgradation and strengthening of postal and Telecommunications, fresh investment and physical targets set to be achieved in the rural and urban areas in the country and particularly in Maharashtra?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

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

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 1751 FOR 6TH MARCH, 2000 REGARDING TELECOM FACILITIES .

(a) Yes, sir.

(b) The details are enclosed at Annexure I.

(c) Order for providing telephone connections are released after the registration for new connections, depending on the position in the waiting list and the category of the registrant i.e. under OYT, Special and General categories, Proposals for the provision of telephone connections for the next five year has not been finalised. However, it is proposed to provide 7.05 lakh telephone connections in Maharashtra State during 2000-2001.

(d) The number of Public Telephone Booths added during each of the last three years in Maharashtra including MTNL Mumbai is given below.

1996-97	=	9208
1997-98	=	12464
1998-99	=	20598

The total number of Public Telephone Booths functioning as on 31-01- 2000 in the State are 114943.

(e) The details are given at Annexure II

Annexure I

FOR TELECOM SERVICES

Details in respect of addition of net switching capacity and new telephone connections for the last three years in Maharashtra including MTNL Mumbai is as under :-

ITEMS 1996-1997 1997-1998 1998-1999

Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

Net Switching Capacity	14190	472614	486804	102004	377764	479768	96293	531870	628163
------------------------	-------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	-------	--------	--------

New Telephone Connections	34357	406403	440760	83442	405705	489147	78101	405404	483505
---------------------------	-------	--------	--------	-------	--------	--------	-------	--------	--------

FOR POSTAL SERVICES

New Branch Post Offices opened , Sub Post Offices opened including those with upgradation and Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras opened in Maharashtra during the last three years are as under :-

Year	Branch Offices opened	Sub Offices opened	PSSKs opened
------	-----------------------	--------------------	--------------

1996-97	31	12	20
1997-98	34	04	20
1998-99	69	03	30

Annexure II

FOR TELECOM SERVICES

It is proposed to provide 52.4 lakh telephone connection in the country during 2000-2001 and 7.05 lakh telephone connection in Maharashtra during this period. The approved targets for the country for the Ninth Five Year Plan for expansion , upgradation and strengthening of Telecommunication services are addition of 230 lakh lines of net switching capacity and provision of 185 lakh new telephone connections with outlay of Rs. 37995 crores for DOT and Rs. 5446 crores for MTNL against the proposed outlay of Rs 83250 crores both for DOT and MTNL. However the total plan outlay of DOT and MTNL is likely to be Rs 73619 crores as estimated in the mid -term appraisal for the whole country during the Ninth Five Year Plan period and the number of new telephone connection is also likely to be about 220 lakhs against the original targets of 185 lakhs.

FOR POSTAL SERVICES

Details of 9TH Five Year Plan Outlay for expansion of postal network (for Country)

S. NO	Name of Scheme/Programme	Approved Outlay	Physical Targets
-------	--------------------------	-----------------	------------------

(Rs. Crores)

1	Opening of Branch Post Office And Sub Post Offices	27.68	2500 Branch Post Offices and 250 Sub Post Offices
---	--	-------	---

2	Provision of Infrastructural equip ment to Branch Post Offices	12.00	2400 Branch Post Offices
---	--	-------	--------------------------

3.	Opening of Panchayt Sanchar Sewa Kendras	3.02	2700 PSSKs
----	--	------	------------

TOTAL	42.70		
-------	-------	--	--

Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojna was not part of the 9th Five Year Plan initially and was included in Annual Plan 1998-99 when targets were approved by the Planning Commission for two years only i.e. 1998-99 and 1999-2000.

The Annual Plan for 2000-2001 for rural and urban areas for the country and Maharashtra is yet to be finalised.