

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3438
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2000
PUBLIC TELEPHONE FACILITY
MANSINH PATEL

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Gram Panchayats provided with the public telephone facility in Gujarat, district-wise;
- (b) the number of Gram Panchayats proposed to be provided with such facility during 2000-2001, district-wise;
- (c) the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided to the remaining Gram Panchayats in the State; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to provide better telephone facility in the State?

Answer

Minister of State for Communications (Shri Tapan Sikdar)

(a) 12,396 Gram Panchayats have been provided with public telephone facilities in Gujarat. District-wise details are given in the enclosed Annex.

(b) & (c) The remaining 1,092 Gram Panchayats will be covered by March, 2002 progressively. Year-wise break up has not yet been decided. Private Fixed Service Provider will cover these Gram Panchayats.

(d) All exchanges in Gujarat are electronic exchanges. Reliable media is being provided progressively to improve STD services. For village public telephones, new technologies are being inducted. Maintenance has been stepped up to reduce fault rate.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3438 FOR 17TH APRIL REGARDING TELEPHONE FACILITY IN VILLAGES.

ANNEX

Sl. No. Name of District Gram Panchayats with Public Telephone Facility to be covered Gram Panchayats yet to be covered

1	Ahmedabad	613	27
2	Gandhinagar	70	0
3	Amreli	530	26
4	Bharuch	684	28
5	Kutch - Bhuj	533	71
6	Bhavnagar	740	113
7	Panchmahal	876	176
8	Sabarkantha	669	4
9	Jamnagar	598	59
10	Junagadh	848	73
11	Mehsana	987	58
12	Kehda	899	0
13	Banaskantha	779	46
14	Rajkot	814	26
15	Surendranagar	620	0
16	Surat	731	126
17	Vadodara	750	156
18	Valsad	602	86
19	Dang	53	17

Total 12396 1092