

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMUNICATIONS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3341  
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2000  
PCOS IN UP AND BIHAR  
SUSHILA SAROJ

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

- (a) whether the rural telephone system in various districts of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar has crippled;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of PCOs sanctioned and set up in various districts of these States during the last three years till date;
- (d) the number out of them lying closed along with the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government propose to bring about improvement in the telephone services and make the said PCOs functional; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

- (a) & (b): Sir, Rural telephone system in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar is generally satisfactory although at times faults do occur due to floods and other natural calamities. Sometimes manmade faults due to digging by other agencies have also been reported.
- (c) to (f): The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.