

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:391

ANSWERED ON:02.03.2005

WAITING LIST IN THE COUNTRY

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

- (a) whether a number of villages in various States of the country are still in the waiting list for getting fixed telephone connections;
- (b) if so, the state-wise number of such villages in the country;
- (c) whether the Government has fixed any time limit for providing fixed telephone connections to these villages;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the annual average number of villages in which the said facility has been provided during the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) State-wise waiting list for telephone connections in rural areas is given in the Annexure.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) Most of the waiting list as on 31-12-2004 is likely to be cleared in next one year.
- (e) The number of Direct Exchange Lines (DELs) provided to villages by BSNL during the last three years are as follows:

2002-03	23,82,366
2003-04	8,64,282
2004-05 (upto 31-12-2004)	7,65,216

ANNEXURE

WAITING LIST FOR TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN RURAL AREAS (AS ON 31-12-2004)

Sl.No	Name of the State	Waiting List
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	566
2.	Andhra Pradesh	24675
3.	Assam	14700
4.	Bihar	86452
5.	Chattisgarh	2178
6.	Gujarat	51152
7.	Haryana	73929
8.	Himachal Pradesh	42627
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	16556
10.	Jharkhand	5196
11.	Karnataka	74674
12.	Kerala	362254
13.	Madhya Pradesh	9253
14.	Maharashtra	133546
15.	North East-I	5569
16.	North East-II	1587
17.	Orissa	16842
18.	Punjab	41580
19.	Rajasthan	118552

20.	Tamil Nadu	62784
21.	Uttaranchal	2658
22.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	70002
23.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	22609
24.	West Bengal	108683
25.	Calcutta Telephones	0
26.	Chennai Telephones	0

Total : 1348624