

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2308
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2004
PCOs IN UP
Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

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

- (a) the number of Public Call Offices (PCOs) working in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) the urban and rural area-wise break up thereof;
- (c) whether most of the PCOs remain non-functional particularly in the Mishrikh District in the State;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the concrete measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

Answer

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

(a) Sir, a total of 1,43,193 Public Call Offices (PCOs) are working in Uttar Pradesh as on 30.11.2004.

(b) The urban and rural area-wise break-up of PCOs is as under:-

- (i) Urban 1,06,294
- (ii) Rural 36,899

(c) PCOs generally do not remain out of order for long duration. However, some Village Public Telephones (VPTs), other than the PCOs mentioned above, working on MARR and WLL systems have remained out of order for long duration than normal period for restoration.

(d) Reasons for faults in VPTs are as under:-

- (i) Fault in MARR system due to technology failure.
- (ii) Fault in Fixed Wireless Terminals (FWTs).

(e) The following measures are purposed to be taken:

- (i) All the MARR VPTs are purposed to be replaced by WLL, progressively.
- (ii) Faulty FWTs are proposed to be repaired/replaced by new FWTs progressively.