

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:533

ANSWERED ON:03.05.2010

TELECOM SERVICES IN INACCESSIBLE AREAS

Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh;Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausaheb

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

- (a) whether the remote villages having population of less than hundred and located in inaccessible and insurgency affected areas have not been provided public telephone facilities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any efforts have been made by the Government to provide telephone facilities in these villages through some latest wireless techniques;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which it is likely to be provided in the said villages?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA)

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

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 533 FOR 3RD MAY, 2010 REGARDING "TELECOM SERVICES IN INACCESSIBLE AREAS".

(a) to (e) Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund is providing subsidy support for implementation of various schemes through different technologies including wireless techniques for provision of Village Public Telephone (VPT) facility in all the inhabited villages in the country. Out of 5.93 lakh inhabited villages, as per Census 2001, about 5.69 lakh villages have been provided with VPT facility as on 31.03.2010. The remaining uncovered inhabited villages including villages having population less than 100, located in inaccessible and insurgency affected areas will be provided with VPT facility in a phased manner by February, 2011.