

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3829  
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2009  
IMPROVEMENT IN PCO SERVICES  
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab

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

- (a) whether PCO services have not been functioning satisfactorily in the country especially in rural and backward areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of PCOs functional especially in the rural and backward area of the country; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the said services in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

(a) & (b) No, Madam. Generally Public Call Offices (PCOs) of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) are working satisfactorily in rural and backward areas of the country. The number of PCOs of BSNL (excluding Village Panchayat Telephones) in rural and backward areas of the country are 674420.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) & (b) above.