

**Provision of Telephone Connection in Villages**

681. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise position of the waiting list for telephone connections as on date;
- (b) whether Government have taken steps to provide telephone connection to each village;
- (c) if so, the progress thereof, State-wise;
- (d) whether any target date has been fixed therefor; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Waiting List for telephone connections as on 31.10.99, State-wise details is given in the statement. (*See below*)

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Govt, has planned to provide a village public telephone (VPT) in each revenue village in the country. Out of 607491 villages, VPTs have been provided in 344508 villages by 31.10.99. State-wise details is given as per Annexure.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The remaining villages are proposed to be provided with VPTs progressively by the end of IXth five year plan (31.3.2002). This objective is envisaged to be achieved by joint efforts of Department of Telecom. Services and private fixed\* service providers.

**Statement**

*Waiting list for telephone connections and villages with VPTs as on 31.10.99, State-wise:*

Sl. No.	State	Waiting List	Villages with VPTs
1. 2.	Andhra Pradesh	801736	23364
3.	Assam	25211	13496
	Bum	95100	20893

[7 December, 1999]

RAJYA SABHA

SL No.	State	Waiting List	Villages with VPTs
4.	Gujarat	187757	13923
5.	Haryana	107315 ,	6807
6.	Himachal Pradesh	45497	8070
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	38033	3451
8.	Karnataka	150355	23690
9.	Kerala	675301	1530
10.	Madhya Pradesh	31175	42998
11.	Maharashtra	259179	31005
12.	Goa	6655	371
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	2118	578
14.	Manipur	4275	649
15.	Meghalaya	2496	1100
16.	Mizoram	2699	605
17.	Nagaland	1521	537
18.	Tripura	5287	598
19.	Orissa	22232	20872
20.	Punjab	197928	12084
21.	Rajasthan	130564	23295
22.	Tamil Nadu	235195	17839
23.	Uttar Pradesh	109548	59345
24.	West Bengal	116185	16715
25.	Sikkim	2474	258
26.	Andaman &• Nikobar	1948	244
27.	Delhi	28761	191
TOTAL		3286545	344508

**Computerised Telephone Exchange in Maharashtra**

682. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of computerised Trunk Telephone Exchanges functioning in Maharashtra, district-wise;