

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken against the official responsible; and

(g) by when the telephone connection would be installed against the aforesaid Regd. No.?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) Sir, there is no criteria as such to hand over OBs to the subscribers. However, intimation letters are sent to the subscribers by post.

(b) 380 OBs have been released from 1.4.97 to 30.6.97 in Janpath Division and sent to D.E. (Out Door) Janpath.

(c) Sir, OBs are not handed over to subscribers; only intimation letters are sent to the subscribers by post.

(d) OB No. 1668 dated 6.5.97 has been released in respect of Regd. No. QA/13001522 dated 29.4.97 in the name of Shri T.C. Sharma for provisioning of Telephone at 792, Baba Kharak Singh Marg, New Delhi.

(e) OB No. 1668 dt. 6.5.97 already sent to DE (Outdoor) Janpath on 8.5.97.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

(g) Telephone connection likely to be provided by the end of December 1997; presently the area being technically not feasible.

Post Offices, Telegraph Offices, Speed Post Offices and Telephone Exchanges in Maharashtra

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

(a) the number of Post Offices, Telegraph Offices, Speed Post Offices and Telephone Exchanges working in Tribal, Rural and Backward district, in Maharashtra, district-wise and region-wise;

(b) the areas, villages, cities getting such facilities and what is the ratio or earmark put by Government for such facilities in ADIVASI areas;

(c) whether there is any such demands put before Government for opening of

such more Post Offices etc. in the rural, backward, urban and ADIVASI villages; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The number of post offices and Speed Post Offices working in Tribal, Rural/backward districts in Maharashtra State district-wise and region-wise is given in Statement-I (See below). The details of telegraph offices in Tribal, Rural and backward districts of Maharashtra, district-wise and Region-wise is at Statement-II (See below). Information regarding Telephone Exchanges is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

The number of post offices and Speed Post Offices working in Tribal, Rural/backward districts in Maharashtra State district-wise and region-wise is given in Statement-I (See below). The details of telegraph offices in Tribal, Rural and backward districts of Maharashtra, district-wise and Region-wise is at Statement-II (See below). Information regarding Telephone Exchanges is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Out of the total number of 40687 inhabited villages in Maharashtra, 11280 are having post offices. The area served per post office in rural areas is 27.38 Sq. Kms, while that in Urban area is 4.66 Sq.Km. The total area of 307713 Sq. Km. of Maharashtra is served by 12324 post offices. The details of places where Speed Post facility is available is given in statement-III (See below).

No ratio or earmark is put by Government for such facilities in Adivasi Areas. During the Annual Plan 1997-98, Maharashtra Postal Circle has been allotted a target for opening 9 post offices in Tribal areas and 29 post offices in other areas.

(c) and (d) There is a demand for opening more post offices in Maharashtra and the details are given in Statement-IV.

Statement-I**Post Offices/Speed Post Offices in Maharashtra State, District-Wise & Region-Wise**

Sl. No.	District	Post Offices		Speed Post Offices			
		Tribal	Rural	Back-ward	Tribal	Rural	Back-ward
1.	Mumbai	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Thane	228	86	—	—	5	—
3.	Raigad	3	164	—	—	6	—
(A)	Mumbai Region	231	250	—	—	11	—
4.	Sangli	—	382	—	—	2	—
5.	Kolhapur	—	502	—	—	2	—
6.	Ratnagiri	—	345	—	—	2	—
7.	Sindhudurg	—	619	—	—	1	—
(B)	Goa Region	—	1848	—	—	7	—
8.	Satara	—	175	—	—	4	—
9.	Solapur	—	471	—	—	1	—
10.	Pune	181	220	—	—	7	—
11.	Ahmednagar	42	564	—	—	4	—
(C)	Pune Region	223	1430	—	—	16	—
12.	Akola	—	364	—	—	—	—
13.	Chandrapur	67	242	—	—	1	—
14.	Gadchiroli	147	33	—	—	—	—
15.	Amravati	59	347	—	—	—	—
16.	Wardha	—	165	—	—	1	—
17.	Yeatmal	95	249	—	—	1	—
18.	Buldhana	—	326	—	—	—	—
19.	Nagpur	—	252	—	—	1	—
20.	Bhandara	—	286	—	—	2	—
(D)	Nagpur Region	368	2264	—	—	6	—
21.	Aurangabad	—	262	—	—	—	—
22.	Beed	—	302	—	—	—	01
23.	Dhule	139	175	—	—	1	—
24.	Jalna	—	216	—	—	—	—
25.	Jalgaon	—	473	—	—	2	—
26.	Latur	—	271	—	—	1	—
27.	Nanded	—	429	—	—	1	—
28.	Nasik	68	497	—	—	2	—
29.	Osmanabad	—	260	—	—	1	—
30.	Parbani	—	280	—	—	—	—
(E)	Aurangabad Region	207	3165	—	—	8	01
Total:		1029	8957	—	—	48	01

Statement-II
Details of No. of Telegraphs Offices including T.Cs Districts wise working in Rural-Tribal and Backward Urban Tribal/Backward areas in Maharashtra Circle as on 31-10-97.

Sl. No.	Name of District	Total		Rural			Urban		
		T. Os including T.Cs	Total	Tribal	Backward	Other	Tribal	Backward	Other
1.	Ahmednagar	6	1	—	—	1	—	—	5
2.	Akola	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
3.	Aurangabad	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
4.	Amraoti	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
5.	Beed	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
6.	Bhandara	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
7.	Buldhana	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
8.	Chandrapur	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
9.	Dhule	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
10.	Gadchiroli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
11.	Jalna	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
12.	Jalgaon	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
13.	Kolhapur	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
14.	Batur	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
15.	Mumbai	32	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
16.	Nagpur	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	32
17.	Nanded	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	19
18.	Nasik	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
19.	Omanabad	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	4
20.	Parbhani	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21.	Pune	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
22.	Raigad	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
23.	Ratnagiri	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
24.	Sangli	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
25.	Satara	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2

26.	Singhudurg	2	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1
27.	Solapur	6	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	5	5
28.	Thane	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	7
29.	Wardha	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
30.	Ycotal	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
31.	Goa	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
		135	—	1	3	4	—	15	—	116	131	

T.O. = Telegraph Office
T.C. = Telecom Centre

Statement III

Areas, Villages, Cities getting Speed Post facilities in Maharashtra

- (1) Mumbai Region
— Alibag, Pen, Roha, Mahad, Vasai, Virar, Bhayandar (N) and West, Mira Rd. Panvel and Taleja, *all in Rural areas*
- (2) Pune Region
— Khandala, Lonavala, Mahabaleshwar, Panchgani Karad, Satara, Kopergaon, Shirampur, Shirdi, Ahmednagar, Pandharpur, Baramati, Bher, Chakad, Shirur and Jojuri

all in Rural areas

- (3) Aurangabad
— Malegaon, Osmanabad, Latur, Bhusaval, Dhulia Jalgaon, Nanded, Deolali,

all in Rural areas & Beed in Backward area

- (4) Nagpur Region
— Wardha, Ycotal, Butiburi (NGP), Bhandara H.O. Bhandara O.P., Chandrapur City

all in Rural areas

- (5) Goa
— Sangli, Isalkaranji, Miraj, Kupwad MIDC, Ratnagiri, Chiplun, Lote
all in Rural areas.

No Speed Post facility is available in Backward and tribal areas except Beed in backward area. No ratio is earmarked by Govt. for such facilities in Adivashi areas and no demands received for more SPO's in rural Backward areas etc.

Statement-IV

Demand for Opening of Post Offices, EDPO in Maharashtra State

EDPOS

1. Tivar Hills (Pune)		Hilly
2. Nhavali (Sindhudurg)		Hilly
3. Nane	Tribal	Thane
4. Abadha	Tribal	Jalgaon
5. Ratnapur	NR	Osmanabad
6. Tirpur	Hilly	Kolhapur
7. Largadwadi	NR	Pune
8. Mahabigoor	Hilly	Raigad
9. Antrola	Hilly	Pune
10. Bhosa	NR	Buldana
11. Tirth	NR	Latur
12. Anant Nagar	Hilly	Pune
13. Koynarale	NR	Raigad
14. Devji Pada	TA	Dhule
15. Pondhari (Kopwada)	TA	Chandrapur
16. Sawarkhoda	TA	Ycotmal
17. Kharahi	NR	Buldana
18. Chinchole (Beed)	NR	Buldana
19. Lohara (Salkeda)	TA	Bhandra
20. Waki	TA	Ahmednagar
21. Survashi	NR	Satara
22. Jamjaon	NR	Seedpur
23. Agashinagar	NR	Satara
24. Terwa (Madhe)	Hilly	Sindhudurg
25. Kirkund	NR	Akola
26. Bari	TA	Ahmednagar
27. Vitheewadi	TA	Nashik
28. Kelwali	NR	Ratnagiri
29. Kurang	Hilly	Ratnagiri
30. Kurumbale	Hilly	Ratnagiri
31. Jadhala	NR	Latur

Demand for More Post Offices/DSOs in Maharashtra State

1. Wadkhal	Distt.	Raigad
2. MIDC Khamgaon	Distt.	Buldana
3. Pulandsi Shirol	Distt.	Kolhapur
4. Trimurti Chowk	Distt.	Nashik
5. R.S. Shrikanthagar	Distt.	Solapur
6. Y.C. Open University Gangapur	Distt.	Nashik
7. MIDC Sinnar	Distt.	Nashik
8. MIDC Osmanabad	Distt.	Osmanabad

9. Shivaji Peth-Jat
10. Umbarde

Distt.

Sangli
(Upgradation of EDBO
to DSO)

11. Servade

(Upgradation of EDSO
to DSO)

12. Khardi, Chadanagar

Distt.

Pune

13. Dattawadi

Distt.

Pune

14. Dahanukar Colony

Distt.

Pune

15. Kurha

(Upgradation of FDSO
to DSO)

Distt. Amraoti.

PCOs in Punjab

6. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of PCOs functioning in Punjab, district-wise, at present;

(b) the criteria followed for installation of PCOs; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to install more PCOs particularly in the border areas of the State?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) Sir, The information is furnished in the enclosed statement (*See below*).

(b) STD PCOs are allotted to the educated unemployed persons by the PCO allotment committee constituted one for each SSA consisting of 2 official members and non-official members one each nominated by sitting Members of Parliament representing the SSA. Educational qualification is 8th pass for rural areas and Matric/High School pass for Urban areas. Preference is given to the following categories of persons:

1. Handicapped including blind persons.
2. SC/ST applicants.
3. Ex-Servicemen and War widows.
4. Retired OOT employees or their dependents.

5. Dependents of Freedom Fighters.

6. Charitable Institutions/Hospitals.

(c) More number of PCOs are being installed in the State of Punjab by way of augmenting/adding equipped capacities of different exchanges including the border areas subject to availability of equipment and funds.

Statement

Name of Telecom.	Local	PCOs STD
1. Amritsar	859	1351
2. Bhatinda	253	514
3. Chandigarh	662	1646
4. Ferozepur	888	950
5. Hoshiarpur	286	952
6. Jalandhar	562	2504
7. Ludhiana	1480	2547
8. Patiala	455	922
9. Pathankot	162	675
10. Ropar	89	284
11. Sangrur	499	649

STD/ISD Booths in Punjab

7. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of STD/ISD booths functioning in Punjab at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite of an increase in their demand, Government