

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEELAHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir, BSNL has planned Broadband in all the States of India.

(b) Out of 198 cities being covered by BSNL for offering Broadband service, 66 cities are from Southern States out of which 22 cities are from Tamil Nadu, 18 cities are from Andhra Pradesh, 11 cities are from Kerala and 15 cities are from Karnataka.

(c) Yes Sir, BSNL is rolling out Broadband services aggressively in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

(d) Sir, BSNL has already planned Broadband services in 20 cities of Maharashtra namely Ahmednagar, Akola, Amrawati, Aurangabad, Chandrapur, Dhule, Jalgaon, Kalyan, Kolhapur, Latur, Nagpur, Nanded, Nasik, Pune, Raigad, Ratnagiri, Sangli, Satara, Solapur, and Yeotmal, and in 18 cities of A. P. namely Anantpur, Cuddapah, Bhimavaram, Guntur, Hyderabad, Khammam, Karimnagar, Kurnool, Mehboobnagar, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Ongole, Rajamundry, Tirupati, Vijaywada, Vishkapatnam and Warrangal.

Sir, BSNL has already launched Broadband services in Pune in Maharashtra and in Hyderabad in AP. The remaining cities are likely to be covered in a progressive manner by June, 2005.

(e) The total amounts involved in these projects of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh are Rs. 33 Crores and Rs. 30 Crores respectively.

VPTs in Tamil Nadu

4506. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of tele-density in rural and urban areas of Tamil Nadu;

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(b) the number of household telephones in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu, district-wise;

(c) the number of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) in Tamil Nadu, district-wise;

(d) whether Government propose to install VPTs in all the villages of the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time frame fixed in this regard;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) whether Government are making any efforts to increase household telephones in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The percentage of tele-density in rural and urban areas of Tamil Nadu is 2.65 and 23.68 respectively. However, the overall tele-density of Tamil Nadu (including Chennai) is 15.13.

(b) District-wise number of household telephones in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu is given in Statement-I. (*See below*)

(c) District-wise number of Village Public Telephone (VPTs) in Tamil Nadu is given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(d) All the Panchayat Revenue Villages in Tamil Nadu (as per 1991 census) have been provided with VPTs by August, 2000 itself.

(e) and (f) do not arise in view of (d) above.

(g) There is a proposal to provide 30,000 lines of Wired Connection and 96,000 Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) connection in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu during the Year 2005-06.

Statement-I*District-wise Number of Household Telephones in the rural areas of
Tamil Nadu*

Sl. No.	Name of Revenue District	No. of Household Telephones in Rural Areas as on 31.03.2005
1	Coimbatore	60,811
2	Cuddalore	18,686
3	Dharmapuri	25,111
4	Dingigul	23,517
5	Erode	70,558
6	Kancheepuram	29,507
7	Kanyakumari	31,326
8	Karur	21,451
9	Krishnagiri	26,482
10	Madurai	22,335
11	Nagapattinam	43,980
12	Namakkal	49,425
13	Perambalur	22,568
14	Pudukottai	227,866
15	Ramanathapuram	24,081
16	Salem	49,204
17	Sivaganga	18,017
18	Thanjavur	50,222
19	The Nilgiris	15,054
20	Theni	11,194
21	Tirunelveli	37,925
22	Tiruvannamalai	20,770
23	Thiruvarur	26,859
24	Tiruvellore	23,488
25	Trichy	34,575
26	Tuticorin	20,710
27	Vellore	29,444
28	Villupuram	18,617
29	Virudhunagar	25,492
	TOTAL	8,79,275

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Statement-II

*District-wise Number of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) in
Tamil Nadu*

SI. No	Name of Revenue District	No. of Village Public Telephones
1	Coimbatore	488
2	Cuddalore	790
3	Dharmapuri	492
4	Dingigul	399
5	Erode	531
6	Kancheepuram	1087
7	Kanyakumari	183
8	Karur	200
9	Krishnagiri	677
10	Madurai	631
11	Nagapattinam	338
12	Namakkal	451
13	Perambalur	408
14	Pudukottai	814
15	Ramanathapuram	554
16	Salem	652
17	Sivaganga	635
18	Thanjavur	846
19	The Nilgiris	55
20	Theni	173
21	Tirunelveli	590
22	Tiruvannamalai	1125
23	Thiruvavur	714
24	Tiruvallur	643
25	Trichy	531
26	Tuticorin	507
27	Vellore	907
28	Villupuram	1561
29	Virudhunagar	651
Total		17,633