

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3030

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2006

CSC RURAL AREAS

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

:-

- (a) Whether the Union Government has formulated a proposal set up one lakh Common Service Centres (CSCs) in rural areas in the country ;
- (b) If so, the details thereof ;
- (c) Whether the scheme would be a joint venture of Public- Private partnership ;
- (d) If so, the details thereof ;
- (e) The funds sanctioned for the purpose; and
- (f) The expenditure likely to be incurred by the private sector ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. The Government has recently approved a Scheme for providing support for establishing 100,000 broadband, Internet enabled, Common Service Centres (CSCs) in rural areas of the country. These Centres would provide a mix of Government and private Services in rural areas, at the doorstep of the citizen.

(c) : The Scheme would be implemented through a Public Private Partnership.

(d) : The CSC operator would be a private entrepreneur. Further,the Service Centre Agency (SCA), under whose direction the CSC operator would be working, would also be a private operator.The SCA would also be responsible for investing in setting up the CSC infrastructure, with the Government providing revenue support to be paid to the SCA would be determined through a bid process.The full details of the Scheme are available in the CSC guidelines which are accessible at [www.mit.gov.in](http://www.mit.gov.in).

(e) and (f) : The Scheme has been approved at an estimated cost of Rs.5742 crores over 4 years, of which the Government of India is estimated to contribute Rs.856 crore and the State Governments Rs.793 crores.The balance resources would be mobilized by the private sector.