GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:673
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2008
SETTING UP OF STD ISD PCO BOOTHS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of STD/ISD/PCO Booths set up in the country especially in Karnataka during the last three years, as on date, State-wise;

(b) the number of such booths proposed to be set up in the country especially in Karnataka during the year 2008-2009 State-wise; and

(c) the amount of funds allocated thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) The data of Public Telephone Booths {(Public Call Offices (PCOs)} excluding Village Panchayat Telephones is maintained circle-wise and not State-wise by BSNL/MTNL.The number of PCOs functioning in all the circles including Karnataka during the last three years i.e. 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 (up to 31-01-2008) are given in Annexure-I

(b) The circle wise targets fixed by BSNL for provision of PCOs during 2008-09 are given in Annexure-II. MTNL has not fixed any target for Delhi and Mumbai as the PCOs are available on demand in these cities.

(c) No sepatate fund is earmarked for this purpose by the BSNL/MTNL as the expenditure on PCO forms part of normal Direct Exchange Lines (DELs).