

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:734  
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2008  
AMOUNT ON USO FUND  
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**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund is being collected as tax;
- (b) if so, the average amount of said fund collected annually during the last three years as on date;
- (c) the amount disbursed on an average out of the amount received; and
- (d) the details of the utilisation made with the allocated amount?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund is being collected as Universal Service Obligation Levy (USOL).
- (b) An average amount of Rs. 3,734.07 crore was collected annually during the last three years from 2004-05 to 2006-07.
- (c) An average amount of Rs. 1,527.15 has annually been disbursed during the last three years from 2004-05 to 2006-07 out of an average amount of Rs. 3,734.07 crore collected as USOL during the last three years.
- (d) The details of the utilization made with the allocated amount are given below:-  
(Rupees in Crores )

Year	Funds allocated	O&M of RVPT villages	Repl. of 1.4.2002	RCP uncovered from 1.4.2002 to 31.3.2005	VPTs in REELs prior to 31.3.2005	RDELS installed between 31.3.2005 and 31.3.2007	REDLs installed	Total utilisation
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

2004	1314.59	65.13	72.09	0	0	1062.78	114.59	0	1314.59
-05									

2005	1766.85	83.39	108.17	31.89	29.86	0	1393.44	120.10	1766.85
-06									

2006	1500.00	81.54	106.19	41.72	55.40	0	342.74	872.41	1500.00
-07									

Average            1527.15

Full form of abbreviations

O&M - Operation and Maintenance

VPT - Village Public Telephone

MARR - Multi-Access Radio Relay

RCP - Rural Community Phone

RDEL - Rural Direct Exchange Line