

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1750

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2010

PROMOTION OF IT SECTOR

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to promote Information Technology (IT) sector especially in rural areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the allocation of funds earmarked in this regard, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Internet penetration in the country especially in rural areas is satisfactorily;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefore; and
- (e) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e): Under National e-Governance Plan, the Government has sanctioned the scheme of Common Services Centre (CSCs) under which 1, 00, 000 kiosks are being established in rural areas. These kiosks are equipped with Computers, Connectivity and trained and incentivized manpower. These centers provide public services along with facilities of Internet and E-mail. The scheme is being implemented on Public Private Partnership model with Government of India providing only revenue viability gap funding. Till 28th February, about 70,000 CSCs have been established. Each CSCs is established on the basis of 1 in 6 villages criteria. State-wise details of funds allocated/expenditure is enclosed as Annexure.