

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:209
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2009
KNOWLEDGE KIOSKS AT PANCHAYATS
Satpathy Shri Tathagata

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up Knowledge Kiosks in panchayats for extending the benefits of information and communication technology to the rural people;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which the rural people are likely to be benefited therefrom; and
- (d) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

Answer

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ(Dr. C. P. JOSHI)

(a), (b), (c), & (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a), (b), (c) AND (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 209, DUE FOR REPLY ON 17.7.2009, REGARDING KNOWLEDGE KIOSKS AT PANCHAYATS.

(a), (b) & (c): Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to extend the benefits of information and communication technology (ICT) to the rural people through the proposed Scheme for e-governance in Panchayati Raj Institutions (e-PRI). e-PRI will bring about improved governance and improved service delivery through the Panchayats and enable greater accountability of PRIs to the community and other authorities. It will also result in better implementation and monitoring of schemes, efficient and transparent utilization of funds, and will enable rural people to access the external world of knowledge and markets. Induction of ICT at the Panchayats level on such a scale will eventually result in mass ICT culture.

(d) A time-line of three years is proposed for the complete roll-out of the project.