

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2308
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2010
SCHEMES UNDER SWAIN
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh;Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a) whether the Government has sanctioned any schemes under State Wide Area Network (SWAN) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has also sanctioned any scheme in order to set up Common Service Centres (CSCs) in the villages of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this regard?

Answer

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

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The Government has approved the Scheme for establishing Statewide Networks (SWANs) across the country, at a total outlay of Rs.3,334 crore to be expended by the Department under Grant-in-Aid of Rs.2,005 crore, over a period of five years. Under this Scheme, technical and financial assistance are being provided to the States/UTs for establishing SWANs to connect all StateAJT Headquarters up to the Block level via District/ sub-Divisional Headquarters, in a vertical hierarchical structure with a minimum bandwidth capacity of 2Mbps per link.

SWAN proposals from 33 StatesAJTs have been approved, with a sanctioned total outlay of Rs. 1,964.97 crore from the Department. The State of Goa and UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands have implemented Wide Area Networks outside SWAN Scheme.

The SWANs in 23 States i.e. Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Karnataka, Chandigarh, Delhi, Tripura, Puducherry, Lakshadweep, Kerala, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Chattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, Assam, Madhya Pradesh. Orissa and Bihar have been declared operational SWANs in other States / UTs are in various stages of implementation. Out of sanctioned amount of Rs. 1,964.97 crore, the Department has, so far, released Rs.597.41 crore to 33 States/UTs.

To monitor the performance of SWANs, the Department has mandated positioning Third Party Auditor (TPA) agencies by the States / UTs. As on date, 11 States i.e. Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Tripura, Orissa, Maharashtra, Arunachal Pradesh, and West Bengal have empanelled the TPA agencies for monitoring the performance of the SWAN in their respective State.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d): Under National e-Governance Plan (NeGP), the Common Services Centre Scheme has been approved with an outlay of Rs.1649 crores of which Center's Share is Rs.856 Crores and the State's Share Rs.793 Crores. The Scheme envisages setting up of 100,000 Common Service Centers in rural areas. The Scheme is being implemented on Public Private Partnership model under which Government provides only the revenue support as viability gap funding. As on 30-06-2010 about 81,000 CSCs have been established.