

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2150
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2011
PROMOTION OF IT IN RURAL AREAS
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to promote information technology sector in rural areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the total percentage of rural areas covered under this sector during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir, Under National e-Governance Plan, the Government has sanctioned the scheme of Common Service 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 alongwith 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 Feb. 2011, about 90,000 CSCs have been established. Each CSCs is established on the basis of 1 for every 6 villages criteria. State-wise details of CSCs set up is enclosed as Annexure.

(c): The percentage of rural areas covered under this sector till 28th Feb. 2011 is given in Annexure.