GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1801
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2012
EXPANSION OF IT IN RURAL AREAS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expansion of information technology revolution in rural areas across the country is very slow, till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government for expansion of information technology in these areas during the last three years and the current year;

(d) the funds allocated and spent for the purpose during that period, State-wise or scheme-wise;

(e) whether the Government proposes to provide information technology in rural and backward areas through both the public sector and the private sector; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): No, Sir.

(c): The Department is implementing Common Service Center Schemes (CSCs) wherein 1,00,000 CSCs are planned to be set up in the rural areas (i.e. 1 CSC for each cluster of 6 villages). As on 31st July 2012, a total number of 91,725 CSCs have been rolled out in the country. These CSCs are ICT enabled and deliver various G2C and B2C services to the rural citizens. The Department has also launched a scheme wherein all Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) who operate the CSCs will be given training in Course in Computer Concepts (CCC) by National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT).

(d): The details on funds released and spent on CSC scheme are given in the Annexure.

(e): Yes, Sir.

(f): The CSC scheme is being implemented in a Public Private Partnership Mode. More G2C and B2C services are proposed to be provided through the established CSCs.