

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:526
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009
PROMOTION OF I.T SECTOR
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

:-

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to promote Information Technology (IT) Sector in all the rural areas of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total percentage of rural areas connected with the said sector during the last three years and the current year?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): 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 31st October, 2009, about 55,000 CSCs have been established. Each CSCs is established on the basis of 1 in 6 villages criteria. Hence around 55% of the rural areas have been covered with the Common Services Centres in the last three years and the current year.