

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1488
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2013
PHALGUNA SAKA ICT IN SCHOOLS
Pathak Shri Harin

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of urban/rural students who benefited from the centrally sponsored "Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Schools" scheme during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the details of the funds released under the scheme during the above period, State/ UT-wise;
- (c) whether the funds allocated for the purpose are not being utilised by the concerned departments;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to bring in improvements in the application of ICT in schools?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

- (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Schools, funds are released to the State Governments based on the Computer Education Plans received from them. The Ministry has approved the coverage of 2,38,45,370 students (both rural and urban) under the scheme in the last three years and the current year. No separate funds are earmarked or released to rural or urban areas.
- (b) A statement indicating the details of State-wise funds released under the scheme during the last three years and the current year is enclosed as Annexure.
- (c)& (d). The funds allocated for the purpose of the ICT in Schools Scheme, have been duly utilized; in the last three years more than 97% of allocated funds were used. The Ministry reviews the progress of fund utilization at the State/ Union Territory (UT) level and takes steps for expeditious utilization of the funds by the States/ UTs.
- (e) The Ministry has finalized the National Policy on Information and Communication Technology in School Education, and the ICT Curriculum for students and teachers. An exemplar Model Bid Document has been prepared and third parties engaged for evaluation of the implementation of the ICT in Schools scheme to guide the States/ UTs for effective application of ICT in Schools.