

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1665
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2015
Irregularities in Purchase of Computers
Chavan Shri Harishchandra Deoram

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether certain cases of gross irregularities have come to the notice of the Government regarding purchase of computers for incorporating panchayats in national e-Governance in the country including Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon;
- (d) whether one of the aims of "Digital India" programme is to connect all the panchayats of the country through fiber optic network; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the funds estimated/allocated to this specific work?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI NIHAL CHAND)

- (a), (b) & (c): Under the e-enablement component of the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan Scheme of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, funds were provided to the States for purchase of computers, etc. Irregularities brought to the notice of the Ministry were referred to the State Governments concerned for remedial measures.
- (d) & (e): The Department of Telecommunications is implementing the National Optical Fibre Network project to connect all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) of the country through Optical Fibre Cables (OFC) for providing broadband connectivity. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 78,512 crores. As on 19.07.2015, OFC laying in 22,946 GPs has been completed.
