

educational institutions, religious and socio-cultural organizations etc. DDA has also developed about 4585 hectares of green areas including 13 sports complexes.

The Government had set up an expert committee under the chairmanship of Shri Tejendra Khanna, former Lt. Governor of Delhi, to look into various aspects of unauthorized construction and misuse of premises and to suggest a comprehensive strategy to deal with it including measures to prevent such recurrence in future and structure and accountability of the enforcement machinery. The Committee had made certain recommendation regarding a change in the role of DDA pertaining to its housing, planning, monitoring and enforcement functions.

Service centres in Kerala

*320. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up many service centres in the rural areas of the country under the National e-governance plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of above centres to be set up State-wise, category-wise;

(c) if so, whether any proposal has been submitted by the Competent Authority of Kerala for capacity building for e-governance implementation of Kerala; and

(d) if so, the status of the above proposal in detail?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The Government has formulated a draft Scheme to facilitate the establishment of 100,000+ Information & Communication Technology (ICT) enabled Common Service Centres, primarily in rural areas across the country. These Centres are expected to provide a mix of Government and other private services at the doorstep of the citizens. However, no decision to go ahead with the implementation of the said scheme has been taken by Government.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government is presently formulating a scheme for providing financial support for Capacity Building for e-Governance to all the States

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including the State Government of Kerala. However, all the States have been provided funds for taking Capacity Building initiatives during 2004-05 & 2005-06 under the provision Additional Central Assistance to States for National e-Governance Plan. Government of Kerala has been provided funds amounting to Rs. 130 lakhs during this period.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Irradiation Technology for Food Preservation

2104. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any strategy for use of irradiation technology for food preservation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have conducted any research to ascertain the utility to be derived from irradiation in the field of food preservation;

(d) if so, the results thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to augment the use of this facility in the country.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
(SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Atomic Energy has carried out research and development on radiation processing of food and agricultural commodities for the past 50 years. In 1991, the Atomic Energy (Control of Irradiation of Food) Rules were drafted to enable radiation preservation of food and were subsequently amended in 1996. In 1994, The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare approved radiation processing of Onion, Potato and Spices under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA) 1954, Rules. The PFA Act Rules were subsequently amended in 1998 and 2001 to include more commodities. The list of commodities approved under these