

1	2	3
17.	Orissa	2.71
18.	Punjab	6.59
19.	Rajasthan	2.92
20.	Tamil Nadu (including Pondicherry)	2.59
21.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	3.78
22.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	0.22
23.	Uttaranchal	0.07
24.	West Bengal (including Sikkim)	0.12
TOTAL:		54.07

Statement-VI

Project wise fund allocations and expenditure by BSNL

Sl. No	Project name	Project Cost (in crores)	Total cumulative expenditure upto July, 2010 (in crores)
1.	Broadband Rural Project	305	233
2.	Multiply Phase I and II	1,368	968
3.	Project 2.2	428	279
4.	OSS/BSS Project	370	109
5.	8 Million CPE tender	509.04	137
TOTAL:		2981	1726

Universal Service Levy

3194. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DoT collects Universal Service Levy (USL) from telecom service providers to raise resources for making available telecommunication services in rural and remote areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the levy collected during the last two years; and

(c) in what manner it was utilized for telecom services in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Universal Service Levy (USL) collected during the two years (2008-09 and 2009-10) was Rs. 5,755.79 crore and Rs. 6,150.62 crore respectively.

(c) As per the provisions of Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act, 2003, the levy collected under USL is first credited to the Consolidated Fund of India and allocations to the Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund are made thereafter through budgetary process with the approval of Parliament. During the last two financial years (2008-09 and 2009-10), an amount of Rs. 1600 crore and Rs. 2400 crore respectively was credited to the USO Fund. The entire amount credited to USO Fund during these two years was utilized in providing subsidy to Service Providers/Infrastructure Providers under following USO Fund schemes:—

- (i) Operating Expenditure (OPEX) for existing Village Public Telephones (VPTs).
- (ii) Provision of VPTs in Uncovered villages (Census 1991) under Bharat Nirman.
- (iii) Provision of VPTs in Newly identified Uncovered Villages (Census 2001).
- (iv) Replacement of Multi Access Radio Relay (MARR) based VPTs.
- (v) Provision of Rural Community Phones (RCPs).
- (vi) Support for RDELs installed after 01.04.2005.
- (vii) Support for RDELs installed during 01.04.2002 and 31.03.2005.
- (viii) Support for operational sustainability of Rural Wireline Household DELs installed prior to 01.04.2002.
- (ix) Shared Mobile Infrastructure Scheme (Phase-I).
- (x) Wireline Broadband Connectivity for Rural Areas.

New channel applications

3195. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is receiving applications for new channel after TRAI view on FDI;
- (b) if so, the details worked out so far; and
- (c) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has been receiving applications for new channels as per the existing Uplinking/Downlinking guidelines of the Ministry.

(b) and (c) The Government had on 30.09.2009 made a reference to the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) under the TRAI Act for reviewing its earlier recommendations dated 26.04.2008 on foreign investment limits for broadcasting sector in light of the Press Note No. 2 and 4 (2009) issued by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) rationalizing calculation of foreign investment in various sectors including broadcasting services. TRAI has on 30.06.2010 submitted its recommendations on foreign