

**Statement-III**

*Allocation and release of BRGF (District Component) Funds*

(Rs. crore)

Year	Funds allocated	Funds released
2007-08	4670.00	3597.50
2008-09	4670.00	3889.75
2009-10	4670.00	3669.97
2010-11	5050.00	2856.86 (As on 19.11.2010)
TOTAL	19,060.00	14014.08

*Allocation and release of Funds for Special Plan for KBK Districts*

(Rs. crore)

Year	Funds allocated	Funds released
2007-08	130.00	130.00
2008-09	130.00	130.00
2009-10	130.00	130.00
2010-11	250.00	0.00 (till date)
TOTAL	640.00	390.00

**E-auctioning of coal blocks**

\*227. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission is re-thinking on e-auctioning of coal blocks; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) There is no provision for allocation of captive coal blocks through e-auctioning mode. However, the Government proposes to introduce auctioning of coal and lignite mining blocks for captive use through competitive bidding as selection process for allocation.

(b) Auction through competitive bidding will bring greater transparency and demonstrable objectivity in allocation of coal and lignite block for captive mining. For this purpose, amendment to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 was moved and the same was passed by the Parliament in August, 2010. After the passage of the Bill, the amendment has been notified in Gazette of India (Extraordinary) on 9th September, 2010.

#### **Universal Service Obligation Fund**

\*228. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount at the disposal of Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund at present;
- (b) the condition for grant of the same; and
- (c) the amount paid to each telecom companies from USO Fund in 2009-10?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL):

(a) Out of the amount of Rs. 2400 crore allocated to the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for the current financial year 2010-11, an amount of Rs. 1611.85 crore has been disbursed as subsidy as on 30.09.2010.

(b) and (c) Subsidy to the telecom companies is disbursed as per the terms and conditions laid down in the various Agreements that USOF has entered into with the Service Providers/Infrastructure Providers. A statement indicating the amount paid to each Universal Service Provider (USP) as subsidy from USO Fund in 2009-10 is given in Statement.